



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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OAU's Salim Urges End to Ethiopian Hostilities

*EA2505160191 Dakar PANA in English 1122 GMT
25 May 91*

[Report by Randy Zormelo]

[Text] Abuja, 24 May (PANA)—OAU Secretary General Salim Ahmed Salim has appealed to the parties involved in the conflict in Ethiopia to end hostilities and talk peace.

Addressing delegates attending the 56th session of the organization committee which opened in the Nigerian future federal capital, Abuja, Salim urged the warring factions in Ethiopia to make the forthcoming London talks "a turning point for the establishment of peace and security in Ethiopia."

The Ethiopian Government under its new leader Lt-Gen Tesfaye Gebre-Kidan is expected to hold peace talks next week with the three main rebel groups opposed to the regime namely the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF), the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) and the Tigray People's Liberation Front.

Salim underscored what he called the "international character and importance of Addis Ababa" which he urged parties to the conflict to recognize and respect.

The Ethiopian capital is headquarters for both the OAU and the ECA [Economic Commission for Africa]. Thousands of foreign nationals, African and non-African diplomats, international civil servants and experts reside there, most of them with their families.

The OAU secretary general warned that any escalation of the conflict would have far-reaching repercussions not only for the Ethiopian people resident in the capital but also for the international community there.

Salim's appeal comes in the wake of successive victories of the three rebel forces and their advance on the Ethiopian capital which led to the stepping down and flight of the country's president Col. Mengistu Haile-Mariam to Zimbabwe on Tuesday.

The EPRDF, which had made the removal of Mengistu a pre-condition for ceasefire and peace talks, has, according to reports, continued to advance on Addis Ababa.

Salim: Pretoria Ties Tarnish OAU Credibility

*AB2505175591 Dakar PAN : : English 1145 GMT
25 May 91*

[Report by Randy Zormelo]

[Text] Abuja, 25 May (PANA)—The maintenance of relations by a growing number of African countries with the Pretoria regime in South Africa undermines Africa's cohesion and unity, OAU Secretary General Salim Ahmed Salim declared Friday in Abuja.

Salim told delegates attending the 56th session of the OAU liberation committee currently holding in Nigeria's future federal capital that the establishment of ties with Pretoria tarnishes the credibility of the organization and reduces its ability to influence developments in promoting the struggle against apartheid. The OAU secretary general recalled the decision of both the front-line states and the OAU adhoc committee of heads of state and government against a precipitous lifting of sanctions and urged member states and the international community to continue to maintain sanctions.

The pillars of apartheid are yet to be repealed, Salim said, adding that thousands of political prisoners are still in jail while a large number of exiles are yet to return home in line with the time table drawn by the Pretoria regime. The pressure of sanctions must be maintained until the dismantling of apartheid "or at least until an irreversible process towards its eradication is in clear evidence," Salim stressed calling on members of the liberation committee to reexamine the issue as frankly and objectively as possible.

The OAU secretary general however lamented the black-on-black violence in South Africa, saying appeals by his organization for an end to the fratricidal conflict have gone unheeded and hopes continue to wear thin each passing day. "It is not unfortunate that our brothers should now opt for violent confrontation, not directed against their common enemy but against their fellow brothers" Salim said. He urged the authorities in Pretoria to fulfill their responsibility by maintaining order without fanning and abetting violence. A plan to curb the violence must involve the phasing away of the notorious hostels and instituting a comprehensive ban on all types of weapons, Salim added.

The committee's session, opened Friday by Nigeria's External Affairs Minister Maj. Gen. Ike Nwachukwu, on Saturday enters the second day of its mid-year review developments in the field of the liberation and decolonization of the continent.

Museveni Gives Address at Leadership Forum

*EA2705115291 Nairobi KNA in English 0830 GMT
24 May 91*

[Excerpt] Lusaka, 24 May (KNA/PANA)—African governments should ensure political freedom including human rights, the rule of law and high standards of accountability, OAU Chairman Yoweri Museveni says in his message on the occasion of the 28th anniversary of the founding of the organisation.

Museveni, who is also Uganda's president, says Africa must create an enabling political environment which promotes the participation of the people in the process of government and development planning and which guarantees human rights and the observance of the rule of law.

The anniversary message, made available to PANA by the Uganda High Commission on Thursday [23 May], is dated 25 May, the founding day of the OAU.

It should also ensure high standards of accountability on those in public offices. This is very important because political freedom is a necessary catalyst to economic development, Museveni says.

On South Africa, Museveni says that the OAU maintains that the international community should maintain international measures, including sanctions, until the foundation of apartheid, the country's constitution, is changed.

For this to be effective, Africa must summon the collective will to enforce sanctions if other countries are to follow suit. In this regard, I regret the action of the European Community to lift sanctions against South Africa, he says. Also, he calls on the liberation movements inside South Africa to intensify efforts to form a united front against the Pretoria regime, and on the South African Government to do all in its power to stop the so-called black-on-black violence which has caused untold misery to the African people in that country.

Referring to the civil wars in Africa including those in Liberia, Somalia, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Angola, and Sudan, Museveni says these are absolutely wasteful both in life and property. In our present state, the economy of Africa cannot afford to divert her meager resources from development purposes to war. Besides, these wars are the sources of untold suffering to millions of our people, as many of them get displaced and others are put to flight as refugees. Today one African migrant out of five is a refugee and one refugee out of every two in the world is an African. This is truly a sad state of affairs, he said.

He calls upon all parties in the conflict areas to remove the sources of conflict and try to solve these conflicts by peaceful means in the interest of Africa and its people. [passage omitted]

African Leadership Forum Ends; Document Issued

*EA2705112791 Kampala Radio Uganda Network
in English 0400 GMT 23 May 91*

[Text] The four-day African Leadership Forum has ended in Kampala with a call on African heads of states and governments to convene a continental conference on security, stability, development, and cooperation. The Forum adopted principles and policy measures in a 36-page document known as the Kampala Document. It will be presented to the OAU summit meeting in Abuja, Nigeria for African leaders to consider.

The document stresses that security, stability, and development of every African country are inseparably linked with other countries, because instability in one African country affects another. The Forum agreed that security and stability erosion on the continent is one of the major causes of Africa's continuing crisis, adding that there is

need for a common African agenda based on unity of purpose and a collective lasting solution to the problems of security and stability.

The document notes that the conference on security, stability, cooperation, and development in Africa should be launched to provide a comprehensive framework for the continent's economic integration and socioeconomic transformation. The document further says that a new order created in Africa through the declaration of binding principles will guide the conduct of governance in individual African states as well as the [word indistinct] imperatives of intra and inter-African relations.

Closing the forum, the OAU chairman, President Yoweri Museveni, said there are many problems facing Africa and dependence on production and export of raw materials is a serious issue. He said that there is no way Africa will move forward without (?indulging in) industrialization, adding that an integrated economy should go hand in hand with sufficient food production.

President Yoweri Museveni said that there is also need to develop human skills of the people through mass education to do away with ignorance and eventually abolish peasantry. He further said that the problem of fragmented market should be seriously addressed. He however expressed happiness to note that Africa has moved appreciably to address this problem, adding that during the next OAU summit meeting in Abuja next month, an African common treaty will be signed. Mr. Museveni said that Africans should guard against ideological dependence, adding that this phenomenon is responsible for the continent lagging behind in social, political, and economic aspects. He further noted that the enormous debt burden of \$250 billion, lack of democracy, and environmental degradation are the other major problems of the continent. He said there is urgent necessity to have the whole of Africa electrified so that people have alternative sources of energy.

The president called for better remuneration on good salaries, so that African experts, such as scientists, do not leave the continent for better pay outside. He said that with discipline and better financial institutions, Africa can save some of the foreign currency to help in putting up seriously needed projects instead of always looking outside for funds.

The closing session was also addressed by the former Nigerian head of state, General Olusegun Obasanjo, who said that the process of implementing the policy document will be looked at on both governmental and non-governmental levels. On behalf of the women delegates, the minister of state for women and development, Mrs. Getrude Byeknaso called for the enhancement of the status of women, who are the majority in the economic productive sector. The representative of the non-governmental organizations [NGO] in Africa said that the forum was a blessed opportunity because it gave NGO's a rightful place and recognition in caring for mankind hand in hand with government.

*** New Regional Order Said To Be Developing**

91AF1034A Paris LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE
in French 26 Apr 91 p 26

[Article by Philippe Leymarie, reporter at Radio-France Internationale: "From Luanda to the Indian Ocean Islands: South Africa's New Regional Order"—first paragraph is LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE introduction; all quotation marks as published]

[Text] Still run by the whites, the South African regime feels it is sailing before the wind: the reforms undertaken are giving it new political legitimacy, the field is clear for the instauration of a new regional order. The States of the former "front-line" and the islands in the southwest Indian Ocean will become an economic and political glacis for this overwhelming partner, which is shedding its besieged-stronghold complex and even aspires to become a substitute mother country—like Great-Britain or France.

Without waiting for an internal political settlement, which is not expected to throw back into question the country's liberal economic orientation, South Africa has undertaken to conquer new spaces. First in the direction of the former "frontline" States (Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe) which—now that the destabilization threats that used to be hatched in Pretoria have become remote—like to imagine that post-apartheid South Africa will again join the South African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC)¹: large sectors, e.g., energy, transportation, or tourism, are already open to the South African partner. South African Airways (SAA) planes, the traditional scouts, are landing in Zaire, Zambia, Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Malawi, Rwanda, Kenya, and as far away as the Ivory Coast and Cape Verde.

In March, the union of South African chambers of commerce, now represented by observers at the summits of the preferential trade area (PTA), which includes 16 southern, central, and oriental African countries, organized a conference designed to launch the idea of a regional common market, with South Africa as the central pillar. The theme of the reunion was: "Scenario for a subcontinent."

Last September, the head of South Africa's diplomacy, Mr. "Pik" Botha, explained in Washington that his country had developed a plan designed to promote economic growth in 11 southern African countries: "We can form the center of a dynamic southern African economy if we can manage to get the capital required not for South Africa, but for the region as a whole," he indicated.² Pretoria also hopes to welcome a World Bank office, and to compete increasingly with the Europeans for contracts linked to international aid, or at least to participate in three-way operations: the Europeans would then serve, on the private African market, as "initiators" for South African capital in search of

respectability.³ Already, Pretoria's trade with the rest of the continent has reached 10 billion rands (\$3.8 billion).

The expected cease-fire in Angola and Mozambique—South Africa's two closest neighbors—should kick off economic recovery in the region. Besides, Pretoria is in a position to put pressure on these countries. For instance, last January, in the South African capital, people were thinking of offering a location for direct negotiations between the Maputo government and the rebel Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] movement, in close consultation with Mr. Kenneth Kaunda, president of Zambia.

Without waiting for a still problematic solution, South Africa has managed to restore its cooperation with Mozambique to the equivalent of what it was at the time of the Portuguese colonization: Pretoria is in charge of renovating the large hotels in the south of the country, modernizing the port of Maputo (with World Bank financing), overhauling the Cabora-Bassa dam, supplying equipment to the Mozambique troops that protect power lines, etc.

If the civil wars in Mozambique and Angola were to end, it would become possible to complete the connection of the transportation, power, and communication networks that are already turning this part of southern Africa into "a remarkably well-integrated entity, with potentialities that make it the main piece on the African continent."⁴ This would be so, even though the prospects of regional free trade are worrying SADCC countries, faced with an overwhelming partner to whom they have very little to offer, except for a few raw materials...and their domestic markets, deserted by national industries that would be unable to sustain the impact. Already dependent to a large extent on their South African neighbor, SADCC member countries—whose organization was created in 1980 precisely to try to break off this dependence—would thus become satellites of Pretoria, which would then be promoted to the rank of substitute mother country, far from London, Paris, or Lisbon.

Diplomacy and Mercenaries

The islands of the southwest Indian Ocean are also part of this "inner circle" in the network of relations that South Africa is now weaving. First of all, Madagascar, the Big Island, on the other side of the Mozambique Channel: already at the time of French colonization, South Africa was ogling its gold and its cattle, and dreamed of settling there the Boers that were fleeing British rule. Taking advantage of the disorder brought about by the two world wars, it tried to establish itself there, and soon met with French resistance.

Yet, it was independent Madagascar, the Madagascar of President Tsiranana's first Republic, that was to become South Africa's first partner in a "dialogue" denounced with near-unanimity by the Organization of African Unity (OAU): when the Suez canal was closed, in 1967, at a time when the route "around the Cape" and the states bordering it were again of strategic interest, the

Malagasy chief of state agreed to the opening of a regular airline with South Africa, invited South African tourists to come and judge for themselves the merits of well-understood racial coexistence, received South African ministers, and considered signing an agreement with Pretoria for a large harbor project in the Bay of Narinda, on the west Coast. All these projects were encouraged, from the French island of Reunion, by General de Gaulle's former prime minister, Mr. Michel Debre, who was directing a local lobby under the banner of "the defense of the Christian West"; these projects, however, came to a sudden end in 1972, when the "Malagasy May" brought about a semirupture between Antananarivo and Paris.⁵

There have been longstanding relations also between South Africa and Mauritius: the Indian and white communities of these two countries have always maintained relations. Port Louis is a natural stopover on the road to India, by air and by sea; and over one-half of Mauritian whites—the "French Mauritians"—live in Durban, Natal. Neither trade nor air connections were ever interrupted, in spite of all international resolutions.

Reflecting this determinism, the major local political movements have always adopted an accommodating attitude toward Pretoria: Labor Party member Ramgoolam used to criticize apartheid as a matter of principle, of solidarity with his Indian brothers in South Africa, who were also its victims. During the seventies, the leader of the Creole right, Gaetan Duval, liked to have tea with Mrs. Vorster, the wife of a president who applied apartheid laws with extreme rigor. And the left, who came to power in the late seventies, with Paul Berenger's Mauritian Militant Movement, remained firm on ideological principles, but did not look too close at investments—or even encourage them (for instance, in the hotel sector). So much so that Mauritius is known as one of the countries that do not comply with the sanctions decided by the United Nations, the OAU, or the Commonwealth.

Today, with an annual trade figure of \$300 million, South Africa is the second-largest trade partner of Mauritius (after France). It has opened a trade office there, a move that prefigures the opening of a consulate, then a mission, and eventually a full-fledged embassy; the latter will be possible only when Pretoria's renunciation to apartheid has been fully implemented.

In Reunion, the strong anti-apartheid trend represented by Mr. Paul Verges' Reunion Communist Party, was unable to block trade: imports from South Africa (the island's third largest trade partner) totaled 208 million francs [Fr] in 1989. It was also unable to prevent the opening of a consulate, which had essentially a political function during South Africa's period of international isolation: it was closed recently, and the former consul was appointed ambassador to Paris....

On the other islands, where the Pretoria regime had to deal with "revolutionary" governments, it did not hesitate to engage in destabilization operations. For instance

in Seychelles, where mercenaries connected with the South African army attempted several landings in order to overthrow President France Albert Rene. The last attempt, in November 1981, was headed by the mercenary leader Mike Hoare, with help from the present South African minister of defense, General Magnus Malan. This did not preclude a discreet cooperation concerning airline routes and tourism. Since 1990, private Seychellois firms are again officially authorized to trade with South Africa, but state-owned firms are still prohibited to do so.

The intervention in the Comoros was far more successful; there, a team of French mercenaries headed by Bob Denard and, already then, sponsored by South African diplomats, reinstated President Ahmed Abdallah in May 1978. Through the mercenaries, who had contacts in Pretoria, secret talks started between the two governments. In 1984, Mr. "Pik" Botha, head of the South African diplomacy, paid a first visit to Moroni and offered to pay for the upkeep of the presidential guard, a unit supervised by Bob Denard's men, and until then financed by France (with Gabon and Morocco as go-betweens). In exchange, Pretoria obtained the authorization to use the archipelago as a transit base for clandestine exports of weapons intended for the Renamo in Mozambique, or for Iran (which at the time was at war with Iraq).

Starting in 1986—France was then beginning its "cohabitation" experiment with the appointment of a prime minister from the right—cooperation became official: South Africa opened a consulate; Pretoria financed a pilot farm and the construction of two luxury hotels. The Comoros then became a "French-South African condominium," with the unavoidable problems that competition between the two "mother countries" entailed.⁶

They had to deal with the worst: the murder of President Abdallah by officers of the presidential guard, in Bob Denard's presence. And the "exfiltration" of the French mercenary leader: a service performed by Pretoria at the request of Paris, which—taking advantage of the operation—regained control over the Comoran security forces. France was one up, and South Africa had to refocus its cooperation: starting in March, the planes of its SAA airline were again landing in Moroni....

Madagascar—the "true leader in the Indian Ocean," an SAA manager recently estimated—was a much harder nut to crack for the South Africans. The mission of its small fighter air force, created with the help of North Korea and the Soviet Union, was to protect its air space against possible South African incursions; an ANC [African National Congress] radio station was broadcasting from the area around Antananarivo; and President Ratsiraka was never short of harsh words against apartheid, thus precluding any relations, even indirect ones, with Pretoria.

As Mr. "Pik" Botha admitted, Madagascar was "the last major obstacle" to overcome in order to achieve normal relations with the continent.

It took the political developments in South Africa, of course, but also Madagascar's economic distress to trigger Madagascar's sudden change of heart. Two weeks after Mr. Nelson Mandela's release, in February 1990, a first Malagasy mission went to Pretoria; in March, Mr. Ratsiraka stated that, from now on, nothing stood in the way of trade relations; in August, President De Klerk made his first "historic" trip to Antananarivo; in September, the inaugural flight of South African Airways took place, accompanied by a maintenance and pilot-training agreement for the Malagasy company (whose pilots used to be trained in France or Belgium). An agreement was signed for the construction of hotels, and the South Africans showed interest for Madagascar's new free zone and civil engineering projects.... The level of trade might exceed that with Mauritius. And at the summit of the Indian Ocean Commission, on 16 March in Antananarivo, President Ratsiraka contemplated the possibility of integrating South Africa into this regional organization.

The rapidity with which Antananarivo resumed its relations with Pretoria met with the general approval of the media and local parties; but it took observers by surprise and may have been due to the Malagasy's disenchantment with France, the leading aid donor and public investor, which showed little desire to encourage French investors, either in 1985 when the first investment code was promulgated, although it had been tailored to its needs, or when the free zone was created.⁷ This, then, should be viewed as a new episode in the silent contest between Paris and Pretoria which is taking place in the islands of the southwest Indian Ocean, even though—there like elsewhere in Africa—French businessmen, some with close links to their government, served as "initiators" for the South Africans.

Eastward Offensive

The South African redeployment is also aimed at the rest of the dark continent, where Pretoria is trying to give an official character to relations that, for the time being, are limited to more or less discreet representations: in French-speaking Africa, this is the case in the Ivory Coast and Togo; but attempts are also being made in Congo, Cameroon, and Gabon. Trade with Zaire has doubled in two years, and South Africa is already strongly represented there: liaison office, agronomic cooperation, possible takeover of the BIAO-[International Bank for West Africa]-Zaire by a South African bank, oil sales, gold mining, registration of Zairian students in South African universities, etc.⁸

In all these countries, ideological reservations disappear one after the other even though—in order to respect the wishes of Mr. Nelson Mandela, the ANC leader—the main wave of diplomatic recognitions is still holding back. The disintegration of the East European bloc and the collapse of Soviet diplomacy—the traditional ally of black South African organizations and southern African liberation movements—acted as a trigger.

Pretoria took advantage of it to launch a diplomatic offensive aimed at former socialist countries: official trade relations were established with Romania; embassies or offices representing certain interests were opened in Poland and Hungary; consular relations are currently being established with Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia. And relations with the Soviet Union, which broke off with Pretoria in the fifties, are progressively returning to normal.

Mr. "Pik" Botha made it plain during one of his first trips to East Europe: "The ANC," he said in Hungary in February 1990, "must now understand that its fellow brothers in East Europe and their political ideologists have vanished. It is time for its leadership to realize that what they would like to establish in South Africa has just passed away in East Europe and is moribund in the Soviet Union."⁹

Footnotes

1. The SADCC includes the following countries: Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
2. LA LETTRE DE L'OCEAN INDIEN, Paris, 6 October 1990.
3. "Paris-Pretoria: Three-Way Business," LA LETTRE DU CONTINENT, Paris, 20 September 1990.
4. Luc-Joel Gregoire, MARCHES TROPICAUX, Paris, 31 August 1990.
5. Dominique Darbon, "France and South Africa, as an African Power," CREDU-Karthala, Paris, 1990. On the emergence of the South African pole, see also: Achille Mbembe, "Black Africa Is About To Implode," LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE, April 1990.
6. Daniel Bach, "France and South Africa. History, Myths, and Current Stakes," (collective work), CREDU-Karthala, Paris, 1990.
7. LA LETTRE DE L'OCEAN INDIEN, Paris, 28 July 1990.
8. BUSINESS DAY, 14 March 1991, and "The Spider's Strategy," LA LETTRE DU CONTINENT, 3 January 1991.
9. Quoted by Claude Wauthier, "Perestroika and Pretoriastroika," LIBERATION, 1 February 1990.

Djibouti

Plan To Aid Ethiopian Refugees Announced

EA2705221391 Djibouti Radio Djibouti in Somali
1700 GMT 27 May 91

[Text] In view of the huge number of Ethiopian refugees swarming into Djibouti, the implementation of an emergency plan to help this influx of people was announced in Djibouti yesterday afternoon. The members of the emergency committee held their first meeting this morning at the Ministry of the Interior. The members came from various departments of the country and discussed the best way to coordinate efforts to help the huge number of refugees, both civilians and military personnel, who have come from Ethiopia, as well as how best to assist in repatriating these people.

Ethiopia

EPLF Radio Reports Fall of Asmera

EA2505111591 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad
Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 25 May 91

[Text] The heroic Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF] Army has destroyed the Dergue's Second Revolutionary Army. Asmera, the capital city of Eritrea, is liberated. After 100 years of colonialism and 30 years of bitter armed struggle, Asmera was liberated last night, 24 May.

With the exception of Aseb, which we are going to liberate very soon, all the towns that were under the control of the enemy are liberated [as heard].

The heroic EPLF Army started this campaign to destroy the Second Revolutionary Army, which comprised around 100,000 soldiers, last Sunday, 19 May, before 1000 on the Dek'emhare front. The heroic people's army, step by step, with [word indistinct] speed and intelligence, moving from one front to the other and destroying the enemy's fortifications, which had been reinforced over the whole year, heralded within six days the burial of the colonization of Ethiopia.

The enemy, after bringing most of its special units to the Dek'emhare front, tried its best. The heroic EPLF Army, after destroying more than six divisions of the enemy force, which is twenty-four brigades, and after liberating Dek'emhare, forged ahead on the Mendefera-Asmera road. It left behind the enemy force at Seraye and opened an attack on the other fronts. The enemy's Second Revolutionary Army started to disintegrate. It was destroyed after its members fled or were killed or captured.

The colonization of Ethiopia is defeated.

To all Eritreans inside and abroad, to all nationals who have been dreaming of this day, to all friends of the Eritrean people: Congratulations to all of us. We are happy and we rejoice.

Heroic Eritrean people, we have taken revenge on your (?enemies) [words indistinct]. Pride and glory to you. You have proved your stamina, endurance, and determination, and this has been too much for their large number, their evil acts and arrogance.

Heroic EPLF Army, thanks to you.

Even at the most critical times, you have enabled the Eritrean people to raise their heads up high, and today you have put an end to the days of suffering and elevated the pride and honor of our people high up to the sky. Please accept our love and respect.

To our heroic martyrs: Rest now, since your legacy is about to be fulfilled. You are always in our memory.

Eritrea, equal to the sacrifices you have paid, we are proud of you. Rejoice, because you will be a free, peaceful, and democratic country. [songs of jubilation]

Tesfaye Makes Statement on Departure for London

EA2505154991 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia
Network in Amharic 1000 GMT 25 May 91

[Text] The Ethiopian team that will take part in the Monday peace talks in London between the Ethiopian Government and the opposition groups left this morning for London. The team is led by alternate Politburo member of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee and Prime Minister Tesfaye Dinka. The team includes Comrade Ashagre Yigletu, member of the WPE Central Committee and of the State Council; and Comrade Bililign Mandefro, the procurator general and member of the WPE Central Committee. In a statement prior to departure, Comrade Tesfaye Dinka said that if there is goodwill on the side of the opposition group, then it is his conviction that the peace talks will have good results:

[Begin Tesfaye recording] As you all know, this team is going to London to seek ways of peacefully and politically solving the grave and difficult situation created in Ethiopia. Discussions with the opposition groups concerned will also be held. This government team is going in line with the directives and decisions given by the recent National Shengo [parliament] session, and as you have heard, it has received the admiration and acceptance of all world leaders, the international community, and the superpowers. The team has the right solution for resolving the Ethiopian problem politically and peacefully. It is with this spirit that the team is going to London, with goodwill and a concerted effort to bring about a peaceful and political solution. [end recording]

The team was seen off by Comrade Yusuf Ahmad, member of the WPE Central Committee and deputy prime minister, and Comrade Shimelis Adugna, member of the WPE Central Committee and deputy prime minister.

Vows To Defend Addis Ababa

AB2505123091 Paris AFP in English 1217 GMT
25 May 19

[Report by David Chazan]

[Excerpts] Addis Ababa, May 25 (AFP)—Ethiopian Prime Minister Tesfaye Dinka admitted Saturday that rebels had captured the country's second city, while Ethiopian Jews and non-essential diplomatic staff were evacuated from the capital as another rebel army closed in.

Mr. Tesfaye, briefing journalists at Addis Ababa airport before leaving for London at the head of the government's delegation to peace talks with three rebel groups, said the fall of Asmara, capital of the Red Sea Province of Eritrea, "was not very violent, it was fairly orderly."

Diplomatic sources said the army had "virtually surrendered," allowing the secessionist Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) to walk into the city which they had besieged since early last year.

Meanwhile the last of some 15,000 Ethiopian Jews, known as Falashas, were being evacuated to Tel Aviv aboard Israeli, Ethiopian and other planes, an Israeli official said. The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the airlift would be over by early afternoon. [passage omitted]

Mr. Tesfaye said he would renew his offer of an immediate cease-fire at the talks, to open Tuesday instead of Monday as originally planned. Monday is a public holiday in Britain.

"The main issue is how to establish a transitional government that will prepare a permanent political structure and the conditions for a multi-party system so that Ethiopians can settle their problem through the ballot and not through the bullet," Mr. Tesfaye said.

"We are concerned to establish a permanent cease-fire, if the other side agrees," he said.

Mr. Tesfaye said the government would not mount any further offensive against the rebels, but would defend Addis Ababa if they attacked.

Asked whether the demoralised army would be able to hold the city, he replied: "It's not just the army. The population is willing to defend the capital if necessary. But we want to underline that we want to avoid a situation where there is fighting in Addis Ababa."

It was unclear how the government can reach an agreement with the EPLF, fighting for an independent Eritrea. "The territorial integrity of Eritrea is not negotiable," said a member of the government delegation Ashaghe Yigletu, who has conducted previous peace talks which have always ended in failure.

"We have offered the Eritreans greater autonomy in a federation," Mr. Ashaghe said. "But they have always refused." [passage omitted]

Rebel Spokesmen Comment on London Peace Talks

AB2505135491 Paris AFP in English 1152 GMT
25 May 91

[Excerpts] London, May 25 (AFP)—Masters of Asmara in Eritrea and deployed around Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa, the country's main rebel movements were strongly placed Saturday for negotiations here next week with the Ethiopian Government.

There were grounds for differences among the three rebel movements, however, notably over the future of Eritrea, where the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) has fought successive regimes in Addis Ababa in Africa's longest civil war for self-determination. [passage omitted]

EPRDF [Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front] spokesman Asefa Mamo on Friday told AFP here that his movement "would not have any problem taking over (the capital) militarily", though diplomats in Washington are reported to have received assurances that the rebels will not move before the talks start.

The spokesman said the EPRDF would press for agreement on two key points: first, that the government "accepts the self-determination and democratic rights of the people", and secondly, that a "transitional government would involve participation of all opposition parties, small or big".

"We are expecting endorsement of the plan from others," he added, charging that the Ethiopian Government, headed by former Vice-President General Tesfaye Gebre-Kidan, "is playing an irresponsible role, making the city (Addis Ababa) into a garrison".

An EPLF spokesman, apparently waiting on confirmation of reports that the Eritreans had captured their long-desired goal, Asmara, said "it's better to wait now" before spelling out what the movement wanted from negotiations.

On the plan put forward by the EPRDF, he added: "A transitional government is something that we're concerned [as received], we'll cooperate provided we get a clear prior commitment on the right of the Eritrean people to self-determination."

Mr. Asefa Mamo said the transitional government would last about two years with the objective of "bringing stability to the country and giving the various parties the chance to bring forward their policies followed by popular elections".

A British Government spokesman said London was backing the U.S. position, but American officials had no

comment. Washington's delegation will be led by Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Herman Cohen. [passage omitted]

Top Military Officials' Escape Attempt Foiled

EA2505202491 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia Network in Amharic 1000 GMT 25 May 91

[Text] It has been learned that a few individuals who had held responsible positions were apprehended by revolutionary and people's militia security personnel while trying to flee the country to an unknown destination from Addis Ababa via Awasa and Sebeta the night of 23 May.

According to the National Campaign Supreme Command today, the former Politburo member and secretary of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee, Legese Asfaw, was arrested that day while trying to flee through Sebeta. Brigadier General Girma Ayele and Brig. Gen. Gebre Giorgis Berhanu, both former deputy heads of military political administration, also tried to crash through a roadblock that night in Awasa in a government vehicle loaded with various weapons. In the ensuing exchange of fire, Brig. Gen. Gebre Giorgis Berhanu was killed on the spot, while Brig. Gen. Girma Ayele was wounded and arrested.

While some people are trying everything to carry out their obligations and responsibilities for the sake of the people and the country, at a time when our country is in a very grave situation, the attempt by some individuals to protect themselves is a very ugly act, noted the Supreme Command. The Supreme Command went on to say that the government is making unreserved efforts in all sectors to bring about peace in the country and urged all Ethiopians deployed in all sectors to carry out their responsibilities diligently and to contribute with the strong spirit of being Ethiopians. The Supreme Command also urged the revolutionary army and people's militia security personnel to be more vigilant and to carry out their responsibilities more than ever before to preserve the peace of society.

EPRDF Calls On Soldiers To Surrender

EA2505192391 (Clandestine) Voice of the Tigray Revolution in Tigrinya to Ethiopia 1500 GMT 25 May 91

["Text" of call by the General Council of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, EPRDF, to the Dergue Army on 24 May; place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] The Dergue and Workers Party of Ethiopia authorities are conscripting you and taking you away from your farms and working areas, and yet they are sending their children to Europe and America. They are letting you be used as cannon fodder to protect their power. This is not (?hidden) from you, the oppressed army. You know well that the people's army of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front

[EPRDF] has arrived at the gates of the palace. The so-called commander in chief of the Army, Mengistu Haile-Mariam, has fled the country leaving you to face the consequences. There is no need to narrate this story to you who are aware of the event. And now, after sending Mengistu Haile-Mariam away, the Dergue authorities, who were his trusted servants, are massacring the people and you. As if the crimes and atrocities they committed with Mengistu were not enough, they are ready now to commit more crimes and let you again become cannon fodder. As if the bloodshed and massacres they have committed were not enough, they are preparing and making calls for more bloodshed and massacres. They are, in trying to [words indistinct].

The peace call they have made is, as usual, to use you as a means of staying in power, and if not, then [words indistinct]. Those criminals, who are against the people and are the disciples of Mengistu, will not be allowed by the EPRDF to carry out their (?destructive activities). That is why the EPRDF did not accept their sinister peace proposals, which they presented [words indistinct]. That is why the EPRDF, without giving in to their sinister intrigues for peace, continued its offensive.

Hence you, the oppressed soldier—give yourself up to the EPRDF army in your area. Whenever the EPRDF army comes to your area, do not engage them in combat. Inasmuch as the EPRDF does not want to harm you, [words indistinct]. Oppressed soldiers who are in areas where the EPRDF has not yet arrived should use their arms against [words indistinct].

What is best for you, the oppressed soldier retreating from all fronts and entering Addis Ababa, is not to enter Addis Ababa but to hand yourself over to the EPRDF. If you are not in a position to do this, then the best thing for you is to go to your home areas. Your archenemies are collecting you in camps in Addis Ababa, not because they are concerned for your welfare, but because they want to use you as cannon fodder to preserve their [words indistinct]. Hence even now, run away from Addis Ababa and go to your home areas. There is no reason from now on that you should be destroyed in a war for the sake of supporting your archenemies. The EPRDF is calling upon you [word indistinct].

[Signed] The General Command of the EPRDF, 24 May.

Foreign Nationals Continue Addis Ababa Evacuation

AB2605100991 Paris AFP in English 1005 GMT 26 May 91

[Text] Djibouti, May 26 (AFP)—France flew 240 evacuees, all but two of them French nationals, from Addis Ababa to Djibouti on Saturday amid fears of an imminent final offensive by Ethiopian rebels, now only a few kilometers (miles) from the capital.

The 238 French nationals left Djibouti Sunday aboard an Air France Boeing-747 for Paris. The two others evacuated from Addis Ababa to Djibouti were from Britain and Cameroon.

Flights resumed Sunday to evacuate the diplomats and nationals of various other countries, among them Burkina Faso, Togo and the Central African Republic.

Reports from Addis Ababa said the Ethiopian capital was calm although a U.N. official said shots had been heard in the city on Saturday night.

Meanwhile, 210 Italians arrived in Rome overnight after being evacuated from Addis Ababa. Most of the Italian evacuees were elderly people, women and children. About 50 nationals of other countries came with them, mostly dependents of European Community diplomats.

About 700 more Italians are believed to be left in Asmara and around 500 in Addis Ababa.

Spokesman Says Eritrean State To Be Set Up

JN2605122791 Amman Radio Jordan Network
in Arabic 1120 GMT 26 May 91

[Excerpts] The Eritrean revolution's factions today declared the liberation of the whole of the Eritrean soil after last night's fall of the last Ethiopian Army's stronghold, Asseb Port. On the latest developments in Eritrea, Idris 'Abdallah Ahmad, representative of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front in Jordan, spoke to our radio.

[Begin Ahmad recording] The whole of the Eritrean territories and the whole of the Eritrean soil have been liberated from Ethiopian colonialism, which has controlled Eritrea for over three decades. [passage omitted]

The Eritrean people are now in the process of studying how to declare the state in consultation with all the Eritrean revolution's factions present on Eritrean territory. God willing, the Eritrean state will be officially declared in the near future—God willing, in the next few days. This is a major historic achievement for which the Eritrean people have sacrificed, endured suffering, and given everything dear to realize this great goal.

There will never be any abandonment of the Eritrean people's rights. We are not prepared to interfere in Ethiopia's domestic affairs, because what is going on now in Ethiopia is a purely Ethiopian affair. They are free to choose what they want. We as Eritreans are concerned about the liberation of our territories. Thanks be to God, all Eritrean territories have been liberated through the Eritrean people's efforts, steadfastness, and militant revolution.

In these moments, one cannot express his great joy for this important historic achievement. We will, God willing, declare to the whole world that Eritrea is an

independent state and that the Eritrean people are advocating their rights and have sacrificed much to set up their independent state on their precious soil. [end recording]

Rebels Encircle Addis Ababa Main Airport

AB2605225091 Paris AFP in French 2220 GMT
26 May 91

[Text] Addis Ababa, 27 May (AFP)—The rebels of the Ethiopian Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) have encircled Addis Ababa International Airport, about 3 km away from downtown tonight, according to witnesses contacted by telephone in the zone. From the Hilton Hotel, which overlooks the capital, there was nothing to indicate that fighting was taking place or had taken place near the airport. The EPRDF radio has called on the population not to try to go to the area.

According to other accounts, fighting took place at the former airport of Addis Ababa, which is used only by light aircraft. Government tanks have been positioned in the capital to protect the national radio, the "Voice of Ethiopia", it was also learned from informed sources.

EPRDF General Council Issues Statement

EA2705075491 (Clandestine) Voice of the Ethiopian
People for Peace, Democracy, and Freedom in Amharic
0400 GMT 27 May 91

[Statement from the Office of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, EPRDF, General Council issued on 26 May; place not given]

[Text] The heroic EPRDF Popular Army has destroyed the enemy forces based in Buno Bedele [Ilubabor region], Hosa'ina [southern Shewa region] Mile, Awash Arba, [about 25 miles south of Addis Ababa], Nazret, [about 50 miles southeast of Addis Ababa], and Debre Zeyit [about 25 miles southeast of Addis Ababa] and has taken control of these places.

Our heroic Popular Army has captured the main base of the Ethiopian Air Force [Debre Zeyit] and has brought a large number of MiG aircraft and military helicopters under its control in the operation. It has also gained control of military (?interests) from Awash Arba to Dukem [on the Addis Ababa to Debre Zeyit road] and of armories used for infantry.

Furthermore, it has brought the railway lines that lead to Djibouti and the roads to Harer and Dire Dawa under its control.

The EPRDF Popular Army has also destroyed the Dergue army based outside Addis Ababa in a similar operation carried out during the week.

If there is anything left after this, it is a matter of mopping-up operations against those scattered forces hiding in some areas without any meaningful power. The EPRDF calls upon these (?remaining) military forces to

realize that there is no use in continuing fighting after this. They should surrender peacefully to the EPRDF Army within the next two days.

In addition, the EPRDF Army in its operations during the week has cut off all roads immediately outside Addis Ababa and has completely encircled the town.

It has also (?encircled) Bole [main international airport] and Liddetta Airports in Addis Ababa and has hit them with artillery shells. The EPRDF issues a strong warning that, as of the time this statement is broadcast on the radio, no planes should leave or arrive at Addis Ababa.

Rebels Seize Army Headquarters Near Addis Center

*AB2705093091 Paris AFP in French 0913 GMT
27 May 91*

[Text] Addis Ababa (AFP)—Rebels of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) late this morning seized the government's Army Headquarters, according to eyewitnesses contacted by telephone. The Army Headquarters, only a few kilometers from the city center, is located in a barracks of the former airport, which now serves only light aircraft. According to the witnesses, government soldiers are leaving the barracks, which are surrounded by EPRDF tanks.

In another development, close to the Presidential Palace, soldiers of the regular Army fired shots into the air to disperse a congregation at the Saint Gabriel Church, where several worshippers were attending a mass for peace.

Tesfaye Ready To Negotiate 'Immediate Cease-Fire'

*EA2705132491 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia
Network in Amharic 0930 GMT 27 May 91*

[Text] Talks in London between the Ethiopian Government and the opposition groups are to begin shortly. It has been learned that when the talks begin today, Herman Cohen, the American assistant secretary of state for foreign affairs and the chief mediator, will hold separate meetings with the Ethiopian Government's peace talks delegation and the three opposition groups.

Prime Minister Tesfaye Dinka, who is leading the 13-man Ethiopian delegation, has revealed that he is ready during the peace talks to negotiate on ways of establishing an immediate cease-fire and the immediate formation of a transitional government. It is expected that political groups and parties will participate freely and democratically in the transitional government after explaining their programs.

Praying and [word indistinct] is taking place in churches and mosques here in Addis Ababa for the success of the peace talks in London.

Headquarters Said To Remain Under Army Control

*AB2705113291 Paris AFP in French 1115 GMT
27 May 91*

[Text] Addis Ababa, 27 May (AFP)—The Army Headquarters has not fallen into the hands of rebel forces of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF), it has been confirmed.

The witnesses earlier contacted by telephone had reported that the Army Headquarters had been taken by the EPRDF this morning. The Army Headquarters is, in fact, located at the city center in Addis Ababa and protected by tanks of the regular Army. At the former airport, a few kilometers from the city center, there are barracks that are also guarded by the Army. The witnesses had also claimed to have seen these barracks encircled by EPRDF tanks.

FLE Says Talks Not Best Way To Reach Accord

*AB2705125991 Paris AFP in French 1217 GMT
27 May 91*

[Text] Rome, 27 May (AFP)—The negotiations that opened today in London with the Ethiopian regime "do not constitute the best way to reach an accord" on Eritrea, the Eritrean Liberation Front [FLE], announced today in a communique published in London.

The negotiations on Eritrea "should be preceded by a fundamental step, that is, the drafting of a common political program by the Eritreans," the communique further said.

The FLE affirms that the "differences between the Eritreans are based on minor problems" and that there is "no disagreement on the issue of the nation." The FLE also called on "all the Eritrean organizations to unite and confirm that the independence of Eritrea cannot be questioned and that we will not relinquish an inch of our land, freed with the blood of our martyrs."

The FLE "calls on the Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF] to agree to initiate a direct dialogue with all the other Eritrean organizations to defend the prospects of national independence against all conspiracies."

Clashes Between Army Factions Reported

*AB2705133691 Paris AFP in French 1316 GMT
27 May 91*

[Text] Addis Ababa, 27 May (AFP)—Clashes have been going on since 1230 GMT around the Presidential Palace in the heart of Addis Ababa, it has been observed on the scene. Firing from machine guns and light weapons broke out in front of the Hilton Hotel, below the palace. Many journalists are staying at the hotel.

According to information received, these clashes are reportedly between opposing army factions.

[Paris AFP in French at 1341 GMT, in a similar item, adds: "About 10 tanks headed toward the Presidential Palace to take up position."]

'Text' of Supreme Command Statement on Cease-Fire

EA2705173491 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia Network in Tigrinya 1520 GMT 27 May 91

["Text" of statement by the National Campaign Supreme Command on 27 May; place not given]

[Text] Many Ethiopian citizens have made untold sacrifices with strong national feeling. In general, the people of this ancient nation, Ethiopia, from every part of the country, are currently making sacrifices with their bodies, sweat, and property. The government wishes to end the problem that has required such sacrifices.

In light of this situation, the government has prepared conditions for the speedy establishment of a transitional government composed of all opposition groups, as a response to the issues of the opposition groups. For its bold and constructive steps, the government has received international support.

Refusing to comply with the advice he was given by colleagues and other advisors on several occasions, the former president of this country, Mengistu Haile-Mariam, fled after plunging the country and the people into a very grave situation. He left them suffering from his rule. However, the government has been making unreserved efforts to implement a peaceful solution to the problem to save the situation. The government never wanted the fratricidal war and the bloodshed of citizens to continue.

To facilitate fruitful results in the London peace talk efforts, the State Council special decree for national mobilization, Number 29/1991, has been repealed effective today, 27 May.

The government forces, people's militia, and other forces have been instructed to cease fire immediately.

The National Campaign Supreme Command greatly thanks all those who have made great sacrifices with their lives and bodies for the safety of the country, the people on all fronts in particular, and those who contributed to the unity and security of the people in general, and it expresses its great esteem to all, heartily wishing them peace and prosperity.

Ethiopia first.

EPRDF Issues 'Notice' to Citizens, Soldiers

EA2705200991 (Clandestine) Voice of the Tigray Revolution in Tigrinya to Ethiopia 1730 GMT 27 May 91

["Notice" from the Council Secretariat of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, EPRDF, to residents of Addis Ababa on 27 May—read by announcer]

[Text] Though the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front [EPRDF] accepted the (?cease-fire) to give a chance to the London peace talks, the Dergue democracy is disintegrating in Addis Ababa. Hence a grave situation threatens the lives and property of the people.

Therefore, for the safety of the lives and property of the people, the situation forces the EPRDF to enter Addis Ababa.

The residents of Addis Ababa should do the following:

1. They should go home. Until the situation normalizes and a further statement is issued from the EPRDF, they should stay indoors, day and night.
2. Inasmuch as the quarrel of the EPRDF is with your superiors and not with you cadres, members of the Workers Party of Ethiopia, you should stay indoors like the other people.
3. Oppressed soldiers in and around Addis Ababa: By understanding that the EPRDF has no quarrel with you and by understanding that fighting in Addis Ababa would result in grave danger to the people, you should surrender peacefully to the EPRDF Army.

The EPRDF Council Secretariat, 27 May 1991.

Listeners, our program will continue indefinitely. Please stay tuned.

Tesfaye Calls U.S. Move 'Major Obstacle'

AB2705203691 Paris AFP in French 2008 GMT 27 May 91

[Text] London, 27 May (AFP)—Ethiopian Prime Minister Tesfaye Dinka warned this evening after the first day of negotiations in London between rebels and the Ethiopian Government that any rebel element who has entered Addis Ababa "must leave immediately."

The invitation to the rebels by America to enter the Ethiopian capital is a "major obstacle" to the progress in discussions between parties involved, the prime minister added at a news conference, threatening to withdraw from the discussions.

The multilateral discussions, which are taking place under the auspices of the United States, are, however, expected to resume tomorrow, the American Embassy confirmed.

Tesfaye Protests Rebels' Entry Into Addis Ababa*AU2705214591 Paris AFP in English 2118 GMT
27 May 91*

[Text] London, May 27 (AFP) — Ethiopian Prime Minister Tesfaye Dinka, in London for U.S.-brokered negotiations with rebel leaders, warned Monday [27 May] that the entry of rebel forces into Addis Ababa would be a "major obstacle" to the success of the talks.

"Any elements that have entered should quickly withdraw", Mr. Dinka said.

Earlier a spokesman for the rebel Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) said that the group's supreme council had ordered its forces to move into Addis Ababa immediately.

(Reports from the Ethiopian capital indicated that government forces were capitulating as the rebels prepared to take over the city.

(However reporters in the city said there were no signs of a rebel presence in the city as of 11:40 p.m. (2040 GMT) on Monday).

Mr. Dinka denounced what he saw as U.S. complicity in the projected rebel entry into Addis Ababa.

The EPRDF spokesman said that the group's leadership had ordered its forces into the Ethiopian capital "with the understanding of the Americans".

This was a "major obstacle" to progress in the plenary round-table talks due to start on Tuesday, Mr. Dinka said, threatening to withdraw his delegation.

However round-table talks between the four parties—the Ethiopian government, the EPRDF, the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) and the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF)—were set to start Tuesday, the U.S. Embassy said late Monday.

"The real thing now is to negotiate a transitional government of everybody which is relevant aside from the Ethiopian Government which doesn't exist any more", a U.S. delegation member said, dismissing Mr. Dinka's remarks as "irresponsible" and "almost irrational".

Representatives of the Ethiopian Government and the three rebel groups met Monday one-on-one with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Herman Cohen.

'Temporary Administrative Committees' Called For*EA2705101991 (Clandestine) Voice of the Ethiopian
People for Peace, Democracy, and Freedom in Amharic
0400 GMT 27 May 91*

[Statement to the people from the Office of the General Council of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, EPRDF, issued on 26 May; place not given]

[Text] It has been learned that at a time when the Dergue army and administration are being destroyed, its rule has collapsed in many areas that the EPRDF has not yet reached. This destruction of the Dergue administration is a positive thing, as it is a liberation of the people of those areas from the Dergue's brutality and oppression. People of other areas who are still under the Dergue suppression must abolish its oppressive system and free themselves.

However, unless an administration is immediately put in place in the areas where the Dergue rule has been destroyed, there will be a problem that will hamper the peaceful life of the people. Therefore, the EPRDF calls on the people in these areas to establish temporary administrative committees, keep the peace, and control the situation in their respective areas due to the fleeing of [words indistinct] and the Dergue bureaucrats and destruction of the Dergue administration.

Moreover, it has been learned that at a time when the brutal and oppressive Dergue rule is being eliminated nationwide, the Dergue officials and the members of its security bodies are attempting to spread fear and terror among the people in the areas under their control, especially in the city of Addis Ababa. It is no surprise that these criminals are panicking and shocked, as they have committed [words indistinct] crimes against the Ethiopian people. The people, however, must continue with their normal activities and ignore the terror the Dergue officials want to spread.

It should be known that any action taken by the EPRDF is designed to protect the lives and property of the people. However, people everywhere, and those in Addis Ababa in particular, must foil the news of fear and terror being spread by the Dergue officials and security men and continue their normal activities with great care.

In another development, as if the wealth and property of the government and the people they have plundered so far was not enough, the Dergue bureaucrats are now stealing money and selling government property by preparing false documents or burning the old documents to conceal their activities. This is well known. However, the EPRDF calls on the population in general and government workers in particular to strongly oppose this conspiracy, if possible. If not, they should take note of those who commit such acts.

EPRDF Warns Public Against Looting*LD2805065191 (Clandestine) Voice of the Ethiopian
People for Peace, Democracy and Freedom in Amharic
0430 GMT 28 May 91*

["Announcement to the public" issued by Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, EPRDF, General Council on 27 May; place not given]

[Text] It will be recalled that we have notified the public on our radio that the EPRDF Army is moving into Addis Ababa. The EPRDF was forced to mobilize its forces

into Addis Ababa at this time when the London peace talks are going on because there is no law and order in the city and the lives and property of the people are in (?danger). Therefore, the EPRDF (?warns) that any individual or group that attempts to loot public and government property should desist from doing so. We strongly warn against any such action of pillage.

1. V. . will take strong and decisive measures against those who steal public and government property.

2. Any individual or group that tries to impede the EPRDF's movement into Addis Ababa by opening fire will be strongly dealt with once and for all.

[Issued] by the EPRDF Secretariat, 27 May 1991.

EPDRF Issues Statement to Foreigners in Addis Ababa

LD2805064291 (Clandestine) Voice of the Ethiopian People for Peace, Democracy and Freedom in English
0445 GMT 28 May 91

["Announcement for foreign nationals residing in Addis Ababa" issued by the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, EPDRF, on May 27; place not given]

[Text] As you are aware, the Armed Forces of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, EPDRF [words indistinct] to enter Addis Ababa in order to safeguard the life and the property of [word indistinct] (?persons) in response to the anarchic situation which had begun to (?dominate in the city). The EPDRF would like to assure all of you that it [words indistinct] will not be [words indistinct] (?with safety). [words indistinct] Addis Ababa [words indistinct] you are advised to stay indoors for your own safety until the situation (?is calmer). The EPDRF will [words indistinct] once the situation is normalized. We hope you'll understand that it is very difficult and dangerous to arrange any evacuation because of the situation [words indistinct].

[Issued by] EPDRF [word indistinct] Council, 27 May 1991.

Government Threatens To Walk Out of Peace Talks

LD2805044991 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English
0419 GMT 28 May 91

[By Moira Whittle and Gavin Gordon]

[Text] Talks in London aimed at ending Ethiopia's 30-year civil war were expected to continue today despite a threat from the Ethiopian Government to withdraw from the discussions. The African nation's beleaguered leaders threatened to walk out of the negotiations after rejecting an American call to open up the country's capital Addis Ababa to rebel forces. Ethiopian Prime Minister Tesfaye Dinka warned that to allow the rebels into Addis Ababa would lead to an explosion of violence with "hand-to-hand battles."

The row erupted yesterday soon after a cease-fire was agreed between the government and rebel delegations. Mr. Dinka described the American invitation to the rebels to enter his country's capital as "a very major obstacle" to the future progress of the talks. But the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front [EPRDF], an umbrella movement for a number of rebel groups, attacked Mr. Dinka's rejection of the American initiative. Meles Zenawi, heading the delegation, said: "He's in no position to reject or accept anything."

Herman Cohen, U.S. mediator at the London talks, said after meeting government and rebel representatives that the U.S. wanted the EPRDF to enter the city "as soon as possible to help stabilise the situation."

With the government disintegrating, there are fears of a collapse in law and order in Addis Ababa unless the rebels establish control very quickly. Early today, REUTERS reported that the rebels had infiltrated through the outskirts of the capital for an expected daylight assault on any remaining government forces.

Ethiopian rebels stormed Addis Ababa at dawn this morning, firing from tanks at remnants of the army holed up at the Presidential Palace, REUTERS reported. Thousands of rebels poured in from all directions and the sound of artillery and machinegun fire echoed across the city. The rebels hit an ammunition dump in the palace compound, touching off an explosion in a flash of orange flame and sending bullets and rockets flying in all directions.

Rebels moved into key points and ministries in the city exactly one week after Marxist military ruler Mengistu Haile Mariam fled into exile because of their onslaught.

Rebel T54 tanks poured gunfire into the tree-shrouded hill of the presidential complex overlooking the city centre. Red tracers spewed from the palace for about half an hour, but when the rebels hit the presidential ammunition dump government fire ceased.

REUTERS correspondent Aidan Hartley rode with an advancing column of 40 rebel trucks of troops. He said the EPRDF rebels were jubilant and waved the red flag emblazoned with an AK-47 rifle, the symbol of their movement. The rebels secured the Hilton Hotel, to which many foreigners had fled when the city was plunged into darkness on the eve of the assault. The hotel lay in the path of the rebel advance on the hill.

EPRDF Council Wants London Talks To Continue

EA2805091891 (Clandestine) Voice of the Ethiopian People for Peace, Democracy, and Freedom in Amharic
0510 GMT 28 May 91

["Statement" by Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, EPRDF, Council issued on 27 May; place not given]

[Text] The international news media had been reporting recently that the EPRDF would not enter Addis Ababa until the London peace talks were held. This news is (?totally) correct. However, [words indistinct] the Dergue Army has accepted defeat after the [word indistinct] at the Ambo front, and we knew that there was no force capable of preventing us from entering Addis Ababa. We promised not to move our forces into Addis Ababa until the end of the London peace talks, expressing support for peace efforts to [word indistinct], and, up until yesterday evening, we kept our promise. We called on the Dergue forces dispersed outside Addis Ababa to surrender. However, the Dergue forces in Addis Ababa did not heed this call.

The reason the EPRDF promised not to enter Addis Ababa until the end of the London conference was to [word indistinct] Dergue forces, to give the peace conference a chance, and to search for a peaceful way to form a transitional government. We also had other reasons. We did not want to see any loss of life or damage to property in Addis Ababa, which has a population of about (?4 million). It was very clear from the outset, however, that if chaos and lawlessness endangered the lives and property of the people in Addis Ababa, the EPRDF would be obliged to enter Addis Ababa, because in a city like Addis Ababa, where millions of people live, if peace and security are disturbed, then there will be heavy loss of life and property. [passage indistinct] Light and heavy weapons are being fired in Addis Ababa and as a result people are in a very tense situation. Yesterday, the situation became anarchic and there was terrible looting and plunder. Houses and property were destroyed and an undetermined number of people killed in various areas.

An intensified shoot-out ensued in the city. In short, there is absolute anarchy and chaos in Addis Ababa. We had ample evidence from various sources of the scale of the breakdown in peace and security. Based on this evidence, the EPRDF decided to move its forces into Addis Ababa to safeguard the lives and property of the people. The destabilization of peace and security, which prompted us to move in, was very clear [words indistinct]. The move into Addis Ababa was also supported by the U.S. Government, which is the mediator in the London peace conference.

The EPRDF's forces' move into Addis Ababa does not indicate the end of the London peace conference. The EPRDF still wants the London peace conference to continue. [passage indistinct] The EPRDF wants the continuation of the London peace conference so that a transitional government in which various political forces can take part will be formed in Ethiopia. It will continue with its efforts to achieve this. It will respect the agreements reached at the London conference.

[Signed] The EPRDF Council, 27 May 1991.

Rebels Launch 'Final Assault' on Addis Ababa

AB2805081491 London BBC World Service in English
0630 GMT 28 May 91

[From the "Network Africa" program hosted by Rick Wells]

[Text] [Wells] At dawn this morning rebel forces of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front [EPRDF] launched a final assault on Ethiopia's capital city, Addis Ababa. [gunshots heard in background]

[Begin Boyles recording] It is just starting to get light, and you can hear the noise that is going on above us here from the area around the Presidential Palace, about half a mile away. Large columns of smoke are rising, there are red tracers going up into the sky, and we have heard the rumble of many vehicles going past the hotel. I don't think there is any doubt now that the rebels are in Addis Ababa. [end recording]

[Wells] Peter Boyles reporting from the capital, Addis Ababa, with the sound of heavy artillery fire in the background.

Rebels Enter Addis Ababa; Attack Palace

AB2805082091 Paris AFP in English 0626 GMT
28 May 91

[Excerpt] Addis Ababa, May 28 (AFP)—Rebel forces of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) entered the capital Addis Ababa on Tuesday, attacked the Presidential Palace and captured the Ministry of Information. The rebels, riding on Soviet-built T-54 tanks and trucks mounted with artillery pieces, blew up an ammunition dump near the palace in a ball of fire, sending shells in all directions and a mushroom of thick smoke into the sky. Government forces inside the palace returned fire after the daybreak attack. Infantry deployed behind the tanks surrounding the palace, built on a hill in the centre of the city. When the ammunition dump went up, the rebel tanks withdrew momentarily to avoid a hail of exploding projectiles. The blast reverberated through the city echoing and re-echoing from the hills surrounding it.

EPRDF rebels had tightened their grip around the capital over the past week, following the flight of former Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile-Mariam, and announced Monday they would be entering Addis Ababa to restore order. The rebels' arrival in the capital, a move approved by Washington, appeared to signal the end of a relentless uprising to topple one of Africa's few remaining hard-line Marxist regimes.

A contingent of EPRDF rebels was seen arriving at dawn in front of the Hilton Hotel, where Western journalists are staying. A few rebels, recognizable by their long hair and white turbans, appeared to have entered the hotel. The hotel was hit by gunfire, but no one was injured. At least 15 government soldiers were seen surrendering

waving white flags. Other soldiers fled, still wearing their uniforms and carrying their guns.

Rebel forces were said by diplomatic sources to have ordered a 24 hour curfew on the capital. But crowds of people were out in the streets and showed no great fear of the rebels.

Just hours after a ceasefire was announced in London, Ethiopian rebels said their forces would soon be entering the city to help restore order. Rebel radio, broadcasting in several Ethiopian languages, called on residents of the capital to remain indoors. During the night, heavy gunfire resounded in the capital, intensifying towards daybreak. A crowd of expatriates, many of them Indians, took refuge in the Hilton lobby overnight. Hotel guests were urged by the management to "keep their heads down." Power cuts occurred in several parts of the city. [passage omitted]

London Talks Delayed; Government Role Unclear

AU2805100291 Paris AFP in English 0951 GMT
28 May 91

[Text] London, May 28 (AFP)—The start of a second day of Ethiopian peace talks was delayed here Tuesday amid confusion on whether the Ethiopian Government delegation would take part, U.S. and Ethiopian opposition sources said.

A spokesman for the rebel Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) said that the talks, due to open at 10:00 a.m. (0900 GMT) had still not begun and stated that the government team had withdrawn from the negotiations. "They have pulled out," the spokesman said.

But a spokeswoman for the United States Embassy here said it was still unclear whether the Ethiopian Government delegation, led by Prime Minister Tesfaye Dinka, would take part in Tuesday's round-table session or not. "We're trying to find that out at the moment," she said.

On Monday, Mr. Dinka said the rebel advance into Addis Ababa would be "a major obstacle" to the continuation of the talks and threatened to pull out if the order to seize the capital were not rescinded.

At a news conference earlier Tuesday, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Herman Cohen said he had been informed that the government delegation would no longer be involved in the talks. However he expressed uncertainty on whether that decision would stick and said he would have to "wait and see" if the Ethiopian Government delegation showed up at the venue for the talks.

Foreign Minister Leaves for OAU Meeting

EA2605174491 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia Network
in Amharic 1000 GMT 26 May 91

[Excerpt] Comrade Tesfaye Tadesse, Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee member and minister of foreign affairs, left today for Abuja to attend the OAU foreign ministers meeting for the next six days, beginning tomorrow. This meeting in Abuja will discuss economic, political, and social activity on the continent and will formulate a new working program for the next year. The meeting's draft will be presented to the summit meeting of the heads of state which will begin on 3 June. [passage omitted]

Kenya

Two 'Senior' Ethiopian Officers Defect With MiG

EA2505121191 Nairobi THE STANDARD in English
25 May 91 p 1

[Article by Haroun Wandalo and "agencies"]

[Excerpt] Two senior Ethiopian Army officers have defected to Kenya after commandeering a MiG 21 fighter jet, "The Standard" has learnt. The two officers, who were identified as Lieutenant-Colonel Mengesha Tefere and Captain Tadesa Agonafie, landed at the Wajir airstrip at 0900 on Thursday.

The North-Eastern provincial commissioner [PC], Mr Amos Bore, confirmed to "The Standard" that the two landed at the airport after commandeering the fighter plane and immediately sought political asylum.

Mr Bora said the officers were being held by Kenyan security personnel, but that the asylum request had not been granted. He said the Ethiopians surrendered to Kenyan security personnel immediately then disembarked from the aircraft.

He said consultations were going on at high levels and that "it would not be correct to say anything at this time."

The PC said the province was peaceful and that no incidents of insecurity had been reported. Mr Bore said the border between Kenya and Ethiopia was quiet and told wananchi [citizens] in the area to report to authorities any suspicious characters.

He said the defecting soldiers had described the political situation in Addis Ababa and the whole country as bad. They told Kenyan authorities that there were so many problems at "home and we have, therefore, decided to run to Kenya." [passage omitted]

Details on Conference on Violence Reported

*MB2505162091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1517 GMT 25 May 91*

[Report by Pierre Claassen and Norman Patterson]

[Text] Pretoria May 25 SAPA—State President F.W. de Klerk stepped in on Saturday to take on personal responsibility to ensure that a facilitating mechanism is created to draw all parties into the peace process.

His action came at the end of a two day government-backed summit on violence and as the conference seemed to hesitate on appointing the Rustenburg Church co-chairman, Dr Louw Alberts, as a one-man facilitating committee with powers to co-opt.

Mr de Klerk's action is seen as a concerted rescue bid in the face of Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] opposition to the Rustenburg churchmen, expressed in emotional terms earlier in the day by a Central Committee member, Mr Walther Felgate.

He said Inkatha saw the churches as part of the problem—a clear extension of the IFP's opposition to the SACC [South African Council of Churches], a major component of the Rustenburg initiative.

At a media conference after the summit President de Klerk said he had decided "to lay my head on the line" when he saw there was going to be difficulty with the proposal that Dr Alberts be charged with the task of setting up a facilitating group.

By putting himself forward he felt he could assist in setting up a group of people who could work together "and in all directions."

The goal was to extend the one-man Alberts Committee into a fully representative group which would represent all the role players.

It was important that persons be appointed who, "have the acceptability of people from all sections as people who are to be trusted," Mr de Klerk said.

Mr de Klerk said his function as co-facilitator with Dr Alberts would be to "make the conference more representative in a smaller circle."

The summit's own proposals would be carried further by a continuation committee—representing the government, Inkatha, the business sector and the church.

Meanwhile Mr de Klerk would liaise with Dr Alberts and the Continuation Committee to establish a group of facilitators that would be fully representative of the summit and the parties who had rejected it.

Important parties not present at the summit were the African National Congress, Congress of SA [South

African] Trade Unions, SA Communist Party, Pan-Africanist Congress (barring a "faction"), Azanian People's Organisation, SA Council of Churches and the Conservative Party.

"As a government we don't employ facilitators," Mr de Klerk said. Facilitators would be appointed on behalf of the summit's Continuation Committee.

While the Continuation Committee would carry out the tasks assigned to it by the summit, Dr Alberts and those who are to join him would work for the broadest possible co-operation to extend the peace dialogue across the whole political spectrum and, possibly, to call a second summit representing all the parties.

Dr Alberts said he believed such a summit was not the prime goal, although he felt at least one more should be held with all the role players as "a public token" of their solidarity.

Both Dr Alberts and the government's chief negotiator, Constitutional Minister Dr Gerrit Viljoen, questioned the value of a conference mechanism in addressing the violence issue.

The two-day exercise had illustrated the complexity of the problem and the inadequacies of a "talk shop" approach.

Dr Viljoen told SAPA he felt there had to be a wide-reaching preparatory action delving into the root problems and their likely cures.

"We don't need another parliament on the issue," Dr Alberts said. "We need to establish smaller groups."

His prime task was to bring all the parties together and to establish a committee which was viewed as neutral as possible.

The most important lesson from the summit had been that the problem was far more complex than most people believed and that if all the parties were not participating, "there will simply be no solution," he said.

The causes had to be investigated down to grass root level and effective measures taken on a local and universal level.

Dr Alberts said he was not too perturbed by the outspoken criticism of the Rustenburg group by the Inkatha spokesman.

He had held discussion with IFP president, Mr Mangosuthu Buthelezi, and was confident he could demonstrate his impartiality and that of the people who would be joining him in the facilitating exercise.

The conclusion of the summit followed meetings by working groups earlier on Saturday.

Prof Willie Esterhuysen of Stellenbosch University said his working group on security matters concluded that the carrying of traditional weapons at rallies should be prohibited.

Leaders should be persuaded to address this issue through negotiation.

The working group also thought the police force should be restructured and strengthened, with wide consultation.

No private armies should be allowed.

—President de Klerk told the news conference he still intended to pass legislation providing for the establishment of a standing judicial commission of inquiry on violence and intimidation during this session of Parliament.

Ideas mooted at the peace summit would be considered, he said.

De Klerk Closes Summit on Violence

MB2505191091 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network
in English 1800 GMT 25 May 91

[Report by South African Broadcasting Corporation Reporter Clarence Keyter with excerpts of the closing address of the summit on violence by State President F.W. de Klerk in Pretoria on 25 May—recorded]

[Text] The Pretoria peace summit came to an end this afternoon with a decision by those taking part that a continuation committee should give urgent attention to the processing of standpoints and proposals flowing from the conference.

In his closing address President de Klerk said he believed the conference had succeeded in its goal and had laid the foundation for cooperation between all role players towards ending violence. At the conference this afternoon Mr. de Klerk was given a mandate by the delegates to extend the effectiveness of the continuation committee by starting a dialogue between it and those who had not attended the conference.

It was also agreed that by a process of consultation and negotiation the committee would become a forum representing all the main players in the campaign against violence.

[Begin recording] [Keyter] The two-day summit has been characterized by soul-searching, straight-talking defense of existing positions, attacks on the viewpoints of others, analyses and constructive proposals. The overriding view of the delegates has been that something worthwhile was achieved.

In the first phase of unstructured discussions the conference succeeded in highlighting a number of aspects on which there was broad consensus. These included:

—That the problem of violence and intimidation could only be resolved satisfactorily if all the main role players were involved on an ongoing basis,

—That there was no simple solution because of the tremendous complexity of the problem and the deep divisions which needed to be bridged,

—That there was a need to address the fundamental causes of violence and not only the symptoms,

—That a wealth of constructive ideas and proposals came to the fore, these needed to be systemized and then integrated into a cohesive set of proposals which could form the basis of a discussion and negotiation process inclusive of all the main role-players, and finally,

—That the creation of a mechanism or forum, or mechanisms or forums, within which this could be attained, was urgent and of the utmost importance.

In closing the summit, the state president said the government associated itself with these viewpoints and would be fully supportive of all future actions within this framework.

[De Klerk] And where initiatives by the government are indicated, we will not hesitate to take such initiatives. I'm glad that this broad consensus is also reflected in the conclusions reached by our discussion groups.

I believe that the decision to establish a continuation committee and a more independent facilitating ability, as well as the definition of mandates, including the establishment of a fully representative forum, adequately ensures that our common purpose of bringing violence and intimidation to an end, will be served effectively in the weeks and months ahead.

The goal is that once a fully representative forum is established through negotiation, there will no longer be any need for a continuation committee.

[Keyter] Referring to what was seen by some delegates as an attack on the ANC [African National Congress], President de Klerk said the conference had not been a ganging up of those present against those not present. It had, however, laid the foundation for a fully representative cooperation, not through co-option, but through dialogue and negotiation.

[De Klerk] I want to appeal to all those not represented here, to make themselves available and to be available for such dialogue and negotiation. We all need each other if peace is to be attained and if violence is to be curbed and finally stopped.

[Keyter] Speaking on behalf of the government, President de Klerk said he wished to emphasize that the government was absolutely bound to a policy of impartial, lawful and professional policing, and that the police,

supported by the Defense Force when needed, was there to protect the life [as heard] and property of all South Africans.

[De Klerk] Against this background the government is prepared to accept objective analysis and monitoring of the adherence to this policy provided it does not constitute infringement on what is essentially government responsibility.

[Keyter] President De Klerk added that the government did not want to be player and referee simultaneously, a point raised by several speakers at the summit.

[De Klerk] Our task is to ensure effective administration and maintenance of the law. While we are not prepared to consent to anything which might impair the sovereignty of our country and the legality of government, we do not in any way, want to usurp or dominate the negotiation process.

[Keyter] The state president said no country could tolerate unauthorized, militia to operate within its borders.

[De Klerk] The government will consequently act firmly against any such development. This includes the unauthorized carrying or hoarding of arms and weapons. Fourthly, the government is fully committed to negotiate its solutions through a broad and representative negotiation process. All the main role players must be part of this.

Fifthly, the government recognizes the importance of the church in reconciliation and in the quest for peace. We also believe that the church, in order to play a constructive role, should be seen not to be instruments directly or indirectly, of any political party or movement.

[Keyter] President De Klerk went on to say that the government regarded itself as bound to agreements already reached and would adhere to it. The same was expected from other parties.

[De Klerk] I also want to say that we are not prepared, ladies and gentlemen, to be pushed into the constant shifting of goal posts beyond agreements reached and the disorderly handling of sensitive issues with far-reaching consequences.

[Keyter] The state president said they realized the urgency of dealing expeditiously with sensitive matters and that red tape would not undermine effective execution of their commitments. He also reiterated that the government had no hidden agenda.

[De Klerk] We regard the ending of violence and intimidation as a prerequisite to success in all other spheres. Our hope and prayer is that this conference will contribute to that. Violence is the scourge from our troubled past. We dare not allow it to continue to reap its deadly harvest. We dare not become mesmerized by it. We must bring it to an end. Let us dedicate ourselves to pursue the

road of peace, to bridge the divisions preventing us from joining forces against violence and intimidation.

[De Klerk begins speaking in Afrikaans] To all leaders in all fields, not only in politics, to all leaders, I say today, here is my hand, let us work together. There is only one way to peace: The way of negotiations and of reconciliation. There is only one way to a peaceful future and that is to lay down a constitution that will be reasonable and just towards all in this country. May the almighty God, in whose hands our future lies, assist us in achieving this. I thank you. [applause] [end recording]

ANC Criticizes Outcome of Peace Conference

MB2705104091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1004 GMT 27 May 91

[Text] Johannesburg May 27 SAPA—The government sponsored weekend summit on violence produced "little in the way of meaningful results", the ANC [African National Congress] said on Monday [27 May].

In a statement the ANC said it would study the documentation and issue a full response later this week. The statement added the ANC remained committed to participation in a conference on violence "structured to produce binding agreements with enforcement mechanisms".

To this end the ANC said it would continue to support the efforts of church leaders to convene a broad-based conference. The statement said such a conference should formulate codes of conduct for political parties and the security forces, and establish an independent commission on violence.

The ANC also refuted a story which appeared in a Johannesburg morning newspaper. The story, which quoted an unnamed ANC source, was "inaccurate and unauthorized," the ANC said.

AWB Leader Comments on Peace Conference

MB2605200291 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1954 GMT 26 May 91

[Text] Ventersdorp May 26 SAPA—Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging [AWB—Afrikaner Resistance Movement] leader Eugene Terre'blanche on Sunday attacked President F.W. de Klerk's summit on violence, which was held in Pretoria on Friday and Saturday.

The leader of the ultraright Boer independence movement said the summit had merely been a move towards creating an intermediate government which would negotiate about the abdication of power to communists.

Mr Terre'blanche had briefly addressed the Friday opening session which he attended with his chief information officer, the well-known rightwinger Mr Piet "Skiet" ["The Trigger"] Rudolph, who was released from detention last month after 5 months imprisonment without trial.

The AWB leader said in a statement faxed to SAPA on Sunday that he and Rudolph had walked out of the conference hall immediately after his speech and had not returned.

He criticised the summit's "clearly ignoring the reality of the ethnic rights of peoples.

"It was obvious that, apart from the Zulus and one or two leaders of national states, none of those attending the conference were representatives of any ethnic peoples (volkere), but were merely representing interest groups.

"In spite of the AWB's clear demands which were put before the summit (for Boer autonomy) and which are based on historic rights, this was not acknowledged or referred to in the media statement after the conference.

"The only deduction which can be made from this is that the government has de facto abdicated as far as the maintenance of law and order was concerned."

"The powers of Parliament are being transferred to a forum or group which was never legally elected by the various peoples within South Africa's present borders.

"Thus the AWB's fears of many years have come true, namely that an intermediate government is now coming into being which would be similar to the Bishop Muzorewa-government of then-Rhodesia. They were given the task of negotiating to abdicate to the communists."

Mr Terre'blanche said that if the AWB's demand for an autonomous Boer homeland were not acknowledged by a future forum or summit, the AWB "could not guarantee peace and prosperity as had been pleaded for at this summit."

Azapo: Government Conference 'Failed Attempt'

*MB2705121291 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1025 GMT 27 May 91*

[Report by Johnny Masilela]

[Text] Pretoria May 27 SAPA—The Azanian People's Organisation [Azapo] on Monday [27 May] said President F.W. de Klerk's weekend peace summit was a failed attempt by the state to exonerate itself as a party to violence.

The organisation's central Transvaal region told a press conference the summit was attended only by the government and "long discredited" collaborators.

Azapo reiterated its call to the broad liberation movement for a consultative conference to tackle, among others, the issue of violence.

Azapo also condemned the re-emergence of necklace murders, and other barbaric methods to settle ideological and political differences.

They also made scathing attacks on civics [associations] in the Pretoria area, saying they were nothing but structures of the African National Congress.

The Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation (ASRO) was singled out and challenged to disband. The community should set up a non-sectarian civic group.

Power supplies had since been withdrawn in Atteridgeville following deadlocked deliberations between ASRO and the authorities.

They also accused the civics, "delinquent" teachers' and students' organisations as well as certain transport committees of hijacking community crises for political gain.

De Klerk Receives UNITA's Savimbi 27 May

*MB2805053491 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2115 GMT 27 May 91*

[Report by Norman Patterson]

[Text] Pretoria May 27 SAPA—President F.W. de Klerk will visit more African countries soon, Angola's UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] leader Jonas Savimbi said in Pretoria on Monday [27 May] night after a meeting with the president.

Mr Savimbi leaves for Lisbon on Tuesday to sign an official peace accord with President Eduardo dos Santos of the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola].

At a media briefing, Mr Savimbi said he may move to Luanda by next month following the departure from Angola of the last of 60,000 Cubans.

He said UNITA had bought a hotel in Luanda and a number of houses.

Mr Savimbi also said Mr de Klerk had told him South Africa would "remain the friend of UNITA".

Mr Savimbi said the ceasefire that came into effect on May 15 could hold.

The United Nations already had a group in Angola to monitor the ceasefire and he expected the Organisation of African Unity to send African peace troops to his country as well.

Mr Savimbi said he was confident he would win the proposed election in September 1992 but added if he was defeated he would accept it.

"We won't go back to the bush fighting guerrilla war."

Mr Savimbi said a new national army comprising 50,000 soldiers could be established from UNITA and the MPLA's combined 300,000 soldiers. It was therefore important to obtain foreign investment to reintegrate the remaining soldiers into civilian life.

"We don't expect a major problem," he said.

Mr Savimbi said in terms of the peace accord the MPLA's constitution would immediately be revised to provide for a multi-party system. After the election the winning party would draw up a new constitution.

UNITA wanted a market-oriented economy.

Mr Savimbi said his followers in Jamba were "looking forward to going home" while those in Luanda were "overjoyed".

He said he had not met African National Congress [ANC] Deputy President Mr Nelson Mandela or other ANC figures yet, but hoped to do so soon. UNITA had treated ANC prisoners well, said Mr Savimbi.

Zulu King Criticizes ANC in 26 May Address

*MB2605161091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1550 GMT 26 May 91*

[Report by Connie Molusi]

[Text] Johannesburg May 26 SAPA—Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini on Sunday called for an end to violence ravaging through townships during his address to more than 40,000 tribesmen at the First National Bank Stadium near Soweto.

Addressing throngs of Zulu men and women, wearing traditional outfits and bearing "traditional weapons", King Zwelithini called for peace, fair and just politics and an end to atrocities.

"Let the politics of intimidation, which supports mass action, strikes, stayaways, and boycotts end. Let people be free from coercion."

King Zwelithini wearing Zulu traditional outfit and carrying a shield, axe, a stick and a spear, said he stood above politics and pursued no party political agenda for himself, but he was being attacked by some political parties.

He called on the African National Congress [ANC] to stop attacking him and kwaZulu, adding that the ANC should stop its vendetta against kwaZulu.

"Let the attacks against Zulu-speaking people stop. Let no ANC man, woman or leader dare again say Zulus are bussed into the Transvaal to kill in order to establish an Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] presence."

"Indeed, let there be an apology for this kind of slanderous attacks against the integrity of kwaZulu and against my very person. I person the Zulu nation," King Zwelithini said [sentence as received].

Introducing the king to the crowd, Inkatha Freedom Party President Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi said the king was a man of peace who knew that true power had its greatest gentleness in avoiding violent conflict.

Buthelezi said the king had made history by addressing the nation from a platform outside kwaZulu. King Zwelithini said the ANC had gone to Transkei, [name indistinct], Kangwane, and the Ciskei, but had refused to travel to Ulundi.

"I feel hurt and offended that the ANC goes everywhere but not to Ulundi ... And will see anybody in their capitals except myself and my uncle, the chief minister of kwaZulu (Chief Buthelezi). This really makes me feel like I am despised by the ANC."

Turning to the issue of "traditional weapons", the king said: "It is not the carrying of cultural weapons that leads to death and destruction. It is the AK-47's bullets which rip through life to kill that is responsible for death."

"I say to the ANC, let this talk of Zulu cultural weapons being the instruments of death now cease."

"The call to ban the bearing of cultural weapons by Zulus is an insult to my manhood. It is an insult to the manhood of every Zulu man."

He added that when the ANC called for the closure of single sex hostels, they were instead charging that the poorest of the poor, who have only the hostels to stay in, must find alternative accommodation in squatter camps.

At the end of the rally, King Zwelithini handed a petition to Brig P. du Toit of the SAP [South African Police] to hand over to Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok, which objected to their perceived belief that the African National Congress is spreading lies to discredit the IFP and the Zulus.

After the meeting, participants leaving the stadium were closely monitored by a large number of members from the SAP and SADF [South African Defense Force]. Most Zulus dispersed peacefully. Most, who had been bussed into Johannesburg, boarded their buses and headed home.

Police spokesman Col Jack de Vries said a man who refused to adhere to a warning by policemen on the scene to make way for the Zulu procession on their way back to Diepkloof hostel had been struck on the head by the flat side of an assegai (spear).

The man was not seriously injured.

Col de Vries said: "The people dispersed peacefully, we had no trouble, they were well behaved."

Zulus Petition Minister on ANC, Violence

*MB2605130091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1202 GMT 26 May 91*

[SAPA PR Wire Service; Petition issued by the Office of the President of the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] on 26 May 1991; place not given: "Petition to the Hon A.J. Vlok, minister of law and order, by His Majesty the King

of the Zulus in council supported by the Zulu nation meeting under royal command in an imbizo [meeting]"

[Text] Johannesburg: 26 May 1991 [dateline as received]—We who bear this petition to you call for recognition that these are troubled times for South Africa. We call for recognition, Mr Minister, that these are times of rapid change in which South African society is being sorely tried and tested. An old order is going but a new order has not yet come.

In all things to do with man and society and the maintenance of normality in life are under threat. At these times of stress and strain, it is vital that the people of our country retain a respect for self which fosters respect for others; and it is vitally important, Mr Minister, that the politics challenging change do not undermine respect for self.

Politics that attacks the dignity of man, that attacks the dignity of institutions and attacks the dignity of culture, will be ever present because there are those who seek to make South Africa ungovernable in these attacks.

We the Zulu-speaking people of South Africa have gathered in our great numbers at the First National Bank Stadium to proclaim to the whole world that in these times of politics which undermine self-respect, we shall remember who we are and in that remembrance, remain loyal and true sons and daughters of South Africa committed to a just society which lies ahead.

We the Zulu-speaking people of South Africa know from whence we came and we know where we are headed to. We know who we are because we know who we were and who we are yet going to be. We shall be what we were and in being what we were, we shall remain South Africans, committed to using our Zuluness to strengthen South Africa's institutional resolve to establish the kind of democracy in which there shall be respect for the individual, for the group and for the nation.

We declare, Mr Minister, the following:

The African National Congress [ANC] has long been attacking the existence of kwaZulu and all in it.

The ANC has perpetrated the historic lie that kwaZulu is a child of apartheid.

The ANC has perpetrated the lie that the kwaZulu Police do the dirty work of apartheid and have been an apartheid instrument of oppression.

The ANC has perpetrated the lie that Inkatha Freedom Party uses the kwaZulu Police and the South African Police to back up the politics of intimidation in the drives for IFP membership.

The ANC has perpetrated the lie that the IFP imports Zulus from kwaZulu by the bus load to attack the residents of Transvaal townships violently to help the IFP establish footholds in these townships.

The ANC has perpetrated the lie that there is collusion between the IFP, kwaZulu and the South African Government in the use of IFP-backed acts of violence to destabilise the ANC.

The ANC has perpetrated the lie that members of the IFP Youth Brigade have been trained by the SADF [South African Defense Force] in Mkhize and the eastern Transvaal to give them the skills in killing which can be used to eliminate ANC leaders.

These lies have been perpetrated to tar the IFP, and kwaZulu and IFP members and all Zulus with the same brush of ugly violence.

These lies have been perpetrated to discredit the IFP as a contending party capable of ensuring that South Africa will end up with a multi-party democracy.

All these perpetrated lies for these purposes have culminated in a nationwide campaign by the ANC to establish a symbol of guilt of violence which does not exist.

That symbol is the Zulu cultural weapons;

That symbol is a symbol attacking Zulu manhood;

That symbol is a symbol attacking Zulu humanity.

We therefore declare, Mr Minister, not ever under any circumstances to remain quiet when the symbols of manhood of His Majesty the King of the Zulus, are removed from him.

We the Zulu-speaking people of South Africa will not allow the ANC to debase His Majesty the King of the Zulus and we will not allow the ANC to debase the manhood of all Zulus.

We know that the call for the banning of carrying cultural weapons which the ANC is now making, is being located in a fear that the ANC is creating. We say thus far and no further.

We the Zulu-seaking people of South Africa count more dead amongst our members than any other group, because we are more attacked than any other group.

We know that black South Africans who are attacked violently are dominantly slain by AK-47's shot guns, rifles, pistols, hand grenades, petrol bombs, limpet mines, pangas and choppers and necklacing and by all manner of dangerous weapons, among which the spear does not even rank in the first percent of all causes of violent deaths.

We therefore, Mr Minister, call on you and the South African Government to recognise our Zulu right of existence, to recognise the value of our Zulu contribution to the emergence of democracy, and to leave us clad in our harmless cultural weapons around which we rally as a people for the good of South Africa and for the politics of justice and honesty.

We deplore the attempts by the ANC to shift focus away from the killing power which their trained cadres have, the killing power which their defence units have and the killing power which their private army, Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation (MK)—ANC military wing], has.

We deplore the ANC throwing of smokescreens to draw attention away from the fact that they continue to recruit for their private army and they continue to hoard caches of arms in secret places ready for use.

We call on you, Mr Minister, to act as follows:

- (1) To leave us with our symbols of manhood which are innocent in the killing of people.
- (2) To refuse to make the South African Government party to the perpetration of these lies that Zulus are killers and the IFP is the orchestrator of killers.
- (3) To take all the action necessary to remove from the ANC's control the arsenal of lethal weapons they hold in hidden caches, and
- (4) To so police black townships and so protect the lives of the innocent in them, that the attacks by AK-47's and other gun fire are brought to an end.

Buthelezi on Allegations of Zulu Violence

MB2705080691 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network
in English 1820 GMT 26 May 91

[Interview with Mangosuthu Buthelezi, kwaZulu chief minister and Inkatha Freedom Party president, by John Bishop, South African Broadcasting Corporation announcer, on 25 May; place not given—recorded; from the "Agenda" program, with introduction by announcer Freck Robinson]

[Text] [Robinson, in Afrikaans] Good evening. The peace summit is over, but the violence continues. There are plans to begin a comprehensive, new peace plan with all the parties in attendance, including the South African Council of Churches and the ANC [African National Congress], which did not attend the peace summit. Today in Soweto the Zulu king called for peace but warned the ANC that attacks against kwaZulu and the Zulu nation will be interpreted as nothing less than talk of murder. Zulu pride was also a strong theme of King Zwelithini's speech at the peace summit.

[Bishop] Yes, just after yesterday's conference, late in the evening, in fact, I asked the chief minister of kwaZulu, Dr. Mangosuthu Buthelezi, whether divisions in the country were not being emphasized by the Zulus' insistence on ethnicity.

[Begin recording] [Buthelezi] Not at all. I mean, in fact, it is the Zulus that founded the ANC. It was the Zulus that staged the last rebellion in South Africa, the [name indistinct] rebellion. So, I mean, it's the Zulus who founded the Youth League—Mr. (Lembethe's) a Zulu.

So, I mean we have always identified with other black South Africans as far as that is concerned, but the fact that we have a king, the fact that the Zulus as a nation were a sovereign nation, just as we have a nation in Lesotho and Swaziland, so in that sense, the king's presence there was actually brought about by the fact that there appears to be a perception that, you know, there are people who are just gunning for Zulus as Zulus, as far as this violence is concerned, and since the king came up with the president of the Transkei to try and defuse the violence, it was felt, I discussed the matter with the president, that I thought it would be a good idea if the king himself came and speaks and say what he wants to say. [sentence as heard]

[Bishop] So it wasn't a call for ethnicity, in other words, keeping the Zulus pure, away from all other people.

[Buthelezi] No, the king was talking about it because there is a belief now, a very general belief, that Zulus are now being attacked as Zulus, and you know, not the IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] but Zulus as Zulus, and the king of the Zulus then is the person who is the embodiment, you know, of the Zulus in his very person.

[Bishop] The IFP is described as mainly Zulu. When you hear overseas reports and also here—the mainly Zulu Inkatha Freedom Party—you know there is indeed a majority of Zulus in the IFP, is there not?

[Buthelezi] But how many Afrikaners are in the National Party? Whoever says Afrikaner, you know—I mean it is a lot of balderdash, you know, if I may say so...

[Bishop, interrupting] Please do.

[Buthelezi] Because you know, in '76, in '77, really, October '77, I was actually summoned by [former Minister] Mr. Kruger when Inkatha was only two years [old], and he hammered me on the fact that, you know, I was taking on Africans of other ethnic groups. From the very beginning Inkatha was not purely a Zulu organization, but merely because I happen to be Zulu and because I am based in a Zulu territory doesn't make Inkatha a Zulu organization, but you know, the mischief of the media, of course they do this. I mean, there are some newspapers that I have refused, you know, to be interviewed by them, journalists who keep on plugging in that it's a Zulu organization.

[Bishop] Chief Buthelezi, what about the question of collusion? It's constantly uttered that you and the government have fixed it so that you, within 12—by you I mean you and Zulu people—within 12 months have become a leading player here because of the violence which they say has been instigated, in collusion with the government, by you and IFP. What do you say to that?

[Buthelezi] What utter rubbish, just rubbish. That's the name of it, because in fact, I am a major player. If you deny that I'm a major player then I don't know what a major player is. I don't think that anyone can hope that the future of this country can be determined without my

input. That's a fact. After all, Dr. Mandela's release himself was actually something that I achieved, I think, almost single-handed because there is no one who has a record of persisting in asking the government to release him because I made it a complete nonnegotiable that I would not talk to the government until he was released. Now, if I was not a major player, why would I do that? Why would the government in fact try to coax and cajole me into talking to them and I persistently refused because I didn't want to talk to them without Dr. Mandela and other players.

[Bishop] Do you, and indeed the king, have the power to stop the Zulus from violence in the main towns in this country?

[Buthelezi] I think that if we claim that, you know Mr. Bishop, it would be like Mr. Major claiming that he can stop the IRA thing, or whoever is in charge in Lebanon, saying that he can stop it, you know, at the drop of a hat. The violence has become very endemic. And, the violence differs, it has many levels. I mean there is feud violence, there is the retaliatory violence, in situations where people find themselves assailed through violence. And, some people prompt others you see. Then I can't say that that is orchestrated by the king and myself, nor can we claim, apart from appealing to the people, I don't think we can claim that we can just stop there, because it has become endemic now.

[Bishop] Well, what about the prospects for real peace now. The SACC [South African Council of Churches] has suggested that they will probably get people together to have a full conference on peace. Would you go to that kind of conference?

[Bishop] In fact they've tried, you know, Mr. Bishop, to call a conference in the past few months, and I refused to go to it. Because, in the first place I thought that it was Christian, you know, for me and them to sort out the problem that we have had between us, because there is a documented, you know, checkered history between us, between the SACC which I could not see that it could play a mediating role, in view of its record of being partisan, of siding with UDF [United Democratic Front], of siding with the ANC, and things like the Kairos Document [document on liberation theology]. So, we agreed on the 20th that we are going to have a working group set up between the IFP and the SACC, to sort out those problems first.

[Bishop] But, what about, say, the Rustenburg Conference group. It's been suggested they might also set up a group. Would you find that amenable?

[Buthelezi] Who are they? They have never come to me. I mean they have seen most of the people, they've seen the president, I think they have seen the deputy president of the ANC, but, they've never seen me, I don't know them. How can I suddenly then leap into bed with them, when I don't even know who they are. The Reverend Johan Heyns, or Professor Heyns spoke to me yesterday about it, and I told him that I could not

promise that I would necessarily attend, and whatever suggestion they made, of course, I would always put to the central committee itself. But my own feeling is that we need to know who they are first before we can accept them as mediators.

[Bishop] Are you still amenable—to use the same word—to joining up in a full peace conference with the ANC. I mean is there an irrevocable rift between the two of you?

[Buthelezi] No. In fact, at our meeting on the 14th of April, the Central Committee of Inkatha Freedom Party agreed, decided that we were going to propose a meeting of the national executive of the ANC and the Central Committee members, on the same basis on which we met in Durban 29th of January, should take place. So, Dr. Mdlalose, our national chairman, has just received in the last few days a response from Dr. Mandela, in which he says that the 12-a-side of Inkatha and 12-a-side of ANC should get together to work on what program that can be where can meet and so on. So, I mean, as far as we are concerned we are still waiting for that, and we are quite prepared to meet. Because that was our suggestion in the first place. [end recording]

Tambo Possibly Not To Run for Re-Election

*MB2705153491 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1510 GMT 27 May 91*

[Text] Johannesburg May 27 SAPA—African National Congress President Oliver Tambo, 73, says he cannot say now whether he will offer himself for re-election as president of the movement at its congress in Durban in July.

Asked whether he will stand for re-election, Mr Tambo said, "It's not a question I can answer now." He would not elaborate.

His announcement, which could have far-reaching consequences for the ANC, appears in an interview in the latest issue of SOUTHERN AFRICAN REPORT, the weekly newsletter published by former RAND DAILY MAIL editor Raymond Louw.

The newsletter says his answer could mean that he feels his health will not stand up to the rigors of office—he suffered a mild stroke in August 1989 and has been under treatment since then. Another is that he believes he should retire and allow Nelson Mandela or a younger man to take over the movement.

It could also mean that he plans to retire but feels he may be required to stand to support Mr Mandela who has been losing ground in the movement.

[Reporting on the interview, Umtata Capital Radio in English at 1500 GMT on 27 May says Tambo might "stand again to prevent the embarrassment of Mandela losing the election because of dissatisfaction over the ANC's handling of township violence."]

"While the question of his health is important—and his wife Adelaide has strong views that he should be protected—it would be a blow for the ANC if other considerations prevented his standing. He has been a powerful unifying force in the movement and his absence could lead to division and faction fighting.

"Mr Tambo, who is steadily recovering from the stroke he suffered in Lusaka in August 1989, is planning to return to South Africa in the last week in June to take part in the movement's July congress in Durban."

The interview with Mr Tambo took place in his home in north London. He told Louw: "I have great hope for the future of South Africa. I think that violence can come to an end.

"I still believe in the sincerity of President de Klerk. It is clear, too, that whites in South Africa—except the AWB (Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging)—have come around to an acceptance of the 'new South Africa'. I hope they will continue to support the process of reform and negotiation."

Mr Tambo, whose illness has left him with a partially paralysed right arm and has slowed his movements, was cheerful and optimistic. His response to questions has always been thoughtful and deliberate and his illness appears to have accentuated these characteristics, without dimming his perceptions, according to the newsletter.

His formula for the ending of the violence in the black townships was for ANC and Inkatha leaders to visit the hostels from which much of the violence has emanated and personally declare that the violence must end.

Such declarations by the leaders of each side in the presence of the other would carry great weight and give credibility to the appeal for peace, he said.

"Anyone who breaks out of that commitment would then be seen as an enemy of the process," he said.

Asked whether anyone would listen to such an appeal, he said he would be willing to make it personally.

He said it was unlikely that the ANC would "go back" to the armed struggle which it suspended during its meeting with President de Klerk in Pretoria in August last year. Were the ANC to return to the armed struggle it would mean the ANC returning to a status of many years back and, once resumed, it would be very difficult to stop.

"We must adhere to the suspension of the armed struggle. To go back means defeat and it would be a tragedy because it would also mean the destruction of a new South Africa," he said. "It is so unnecessary because it is right that we should live peacefully with one another and sort out our problems man to man."

The opposition to embracing change was on a small scale, he said.

On the sanctions issue, Mr Tambo said the lifting of sanctions depended on Mr de Klerk complying with the demands made on him. He had to go all the way in removing restrictive legislation and in releasing political prisoners. The ANC would also have to decide on its attitude to sanctions.

"Tambo was cheerful and optimistic despite the sombre reports of continuing violence in South Africa. The discussion lasted an hour but he showed no signs of fatigue at the end. It is quite clear that he is in close touch with developments in South Africa.

"Though his views are broadly in accord with those of the ANC in Johannesburg, there are differences of emphasis between the two. For example, Tambo's view on how violence can be contained lays more emphasis on activity on the ground by the leadership of the ANC and Inkatha and less on the government.

"He also maintains a confidence in De Klerk which is deteriorating among the ANC in SA," the report states.

NP Launches 'Colored' Branch in Port Elizabeth

*MB2705125491 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1100 GMT 27 May 91*

[Text] Political history was made in Port Elizabeth, [Cape Province] over the weekend when the National Party [NP] launched a branch in the colored northern areas. Shadley Nash reports:

[Nash] The launch of the [word indistinct] branch of the National Party followed events in Parliament last week when a number of Labor Party MP's joined the National Party.

National Party MP for Algoa, Frans Smit, was quoted as saying the formation of the branch stemmed from deep dissatisfaction with the Labor Party and its leadership. Newly elected branch chairman Philip Kemp said today the branch has 23 members, but said he was confident this number will increase as a lot of colored people supported the reform process initiated by State President F.W. de Klerk.

Ex-LP Members Deny Being Coerced To Join NP

*MB2705131191 Johannesburg SABA in English
1057 GMT 27 May 91*

[Report by Lorraine Braid]

[Text] Cape Town May 27 SABA—Representatives of the 21 "new" National Party [NP] MPs have denied allegations by Labour Party [LP] leader, Mr Allan Hendrickse, that they were coerced into joining the NP.

Mr Nic Isaacs, Mr Jac Rabie and Mr Stanley Fisher all emphatically denied these accusations at a press conference shortly after one held by Mr Hendrickse.

On Monday [27 May] morning Mr Hendrickse, surrounded by his remaining caucus, said at a press conference that those who had left the LP to join the NP had been coerced into doing so. He said he had proof of this.

He also made veiled suggestions of bribery, saying most of the LP MPs who had joined the NP were financially indebted to the LP and that the NP had promised to clear these debts.

He also said these defectors had been promised positions in the House of Representatives if they joined the NP.

Mr Hendrickse said there was a possibility of court action against some of the defectors and "evidently they were told that if the court cases proceeded, the NP would see to, and pay for, them getting the best advocates. If they lose then the NP would pay their debts to the LP."

Mr Hendrickse said although the state president, Mr F.W. de Klerk purported to be aloof, he was involved in the situation as well.

"There is a total onslaught against the LP for fear that it will use its veto rights in the VAT [value-added tax] bill and the land measures bill to be debated this week.

"The NP has gone out of its way where people—I won't mention any names now—have made positive approaches to members to join the NP."

Mr Rabie, the MP for Reiger Park, said he rejected Mr Hendrickse's allegations with the contempt they deserved.

"I feel extremely annoyed at the accusations being flung around. My party last week made a unanimous decision to disband and to join the NP. There is huge support for the state president and for the NP.

"Also last week 1,160 people in my constituency had already joined the NP."

Mr Nic Isaacs said his constituency of Bishop Lavis had made a spontaneous decision to join forces with the NP.

In denying allegations of coercion, he said: "We did not even know of one another's decision to join the NP."

Mr Fisher said there were already ten established branches of the NP in his constituency of Mitchell's Plain.

"There was no approach whatsoever made to us from the NP. I spoke to the National Party and then went back to the community for its decision."

He said he and his colleagues were "used to being accused of owing the LP money".

Predicting that the NP would have a majority in the House with 47 MPs by the end of this week, Mr Fisher said he was in possession of a list of names of LP MPs who would be resigning this week.

Included in that list was the name of Mr Patrick McKenzie of Bonteheuwel, who last Wednesday he had made a scathing attack [as received] on the defectors from the LP, calling them Judases.

Mr McKenzie's name was released last Friday as one of those who had resigned from the LP, but he was not present at today's NP press conference.

However he did attend Mr Hendrickse's press conference, where he said he still stood by his opinion that "you have to do what your constituency wants".

He said he had consulted his constituency but was not prepared to say what the decision was before he had spoken to Mr Hendrickse.

There was a chorus of "hear, hear" when Mr Hendrickse said: "We still have 52 MPs and there will be absolutely no further defections."

The Rev Andrew Julies, minister of local government and agriculture in the House of Representatives, was mentioned last Friday as having resigned from the LP, as was the minister of health services and welfare, Mr Chris April.

Mr Hendrickse said on Monday that Rev Julies was in Canada and he would be in contact with Rev Julies "at about midday" to ascertain his decision.

Mr April denied he ever had intentions of joining the NP.

"I will never join the NP as long as it discriminates against the poor people for whom I work."

The NP's chief information officer, Mr Renier Schoeman, said at today's NP press conference that as far as he was aware the defection of former Labour Party members and recruitment of other MPs from the House of Representatives was not initiated by the NP and was not part of a deliberate attempt to erode the LP.

"This was something that occurred spontaneously among the members and in their consciences."

Mr Rabie said no one had been promised any sort of position as an inducement to join the NP. On the contrary, Mr de Klerk had told them last week that he was not offering them any guarantees, and that they would be treated as ordinary members of the party.

Police Arrest 2 'Trained Terrorists' 27 May

*MB2805054091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2255 GMT 27 May 91*

[Text] Johannesburg May 27 SAPA—Two trained terrorists were arrested by Soweto police late on Monday [27 May] night, the police liaison officer for Soweto, Col Jac de Vries said.

One was identified as Dumisani Nkabinde, 29, from Pimville 4. He was trained outside South Africa, Col de Vries told SAPA by telephone.

"Nkabinde claims to be a media liaison officer for the ANC [African National Congress] in Johannesburg," Col de Vries said.

The other was identified as Clement Sibikwa, 23, who was locally trained and lived in Pimville 6.

Both were recently released from prison in terms of the government amnesty.

"Police checked their car registration which is a routine procedure in the application of the curfew. The car was found to be stolen. Police forced the car to a stop, and on searching it found four F1 hand grenades in the vehicle. The two men lived very near the scene of the killings on Friday night at the Blue Flame shebeen in Pimville. They have not yet been connected with this incident," Col de Vries said.

Liberia

Interim Government Issues Statement on Talks

AB2505133291 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English
0900 GMT 25 May 91

[Text] The Liberian Interim Government of National Unity has been explaining circumstances surrounding the failure to hold the previously scheduled peace talks with the National Patriotic Front [of Liberia, NPFL] in the Ivory Coast on Thursday [23 May]. A statement issued by the spokesman and coordinator for information services of the interim government, Mr. Lamini Warity, said the interim government had informed the promoters of the proposed talks long beforehand that it was prepared to participate in the talks on the conditions that the talks be held within the framework of the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] peace plan and that adequate preparations be made in respect of details and modalities of the talks.

The statement said the interim government adopted this position because it is not interested in mere photo opportunities or what it called propaganda (?tunes) which had characterized previous talks between the NPFL and other parties in the Liberian conflict. Such talks, the statement said, have raised the hopes of the Liberian people only to dash them with inconclusive arrangements for lasting peace and the reluctance of the NPFL to implement agreements reached so far. The interim government said it was opposed to embarking upon peace talks that did not have as their basis a commitment on the part of the NPFL to ending the state of no war, no peace and the holding of democratic elections.

According to the statement, remarks made by the NPFL leader on the eve of the scheduled talks did not augur well for serious deliberations in Abidjan. Mr. Taylor was quoted by NPFL-controlled radio as saying he was going to attend the Abidjan talks in his capacity as president of Liberia and that the proposed talks would constitute the last opportunity for the head of the interim government to reach a compromise solution with his government.

The interim government said it considers such remarks as reflective of the lack of seriousness on the part of the NPFL leader with regards to the talks. The interim government noted that the record of peace talks held so far to end the Liberian conflict is replete with sincere overtures on the part of the Interim Government of National Unity aimed at achieving a peaceful resolution of the Liberian crisis.

Government further noted that as late as three weeks ago, it forwarded a set of peace proposals to the NPFL leader, proposals to which the NPFL had not had the courtesy to reply. The interim government's proposals to keep a local contact group organized has also been spurned, the statement said.

On the basis of the points listed, the statement concluded by saying: The interim government could not help but set out the stated preconditions for the previously scheduled peace talks in Abidjan.

Charles Taylor on Peace Talks, Abuja Meeting

AB2505100291 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 24 May 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Unusually perhaps, we have not heard a lot from Charles Taylor, the leader of the rebel National Patriotic Front of Liberia [NPFL] recently. But this afternoon he called us up. He is still accused of being behind the rebellion in neighboring Sierra Leone, though he denies it, and of being intransigent in his opposition to the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] peace plan for Liberia and the interim presidency of Amos Sawyer. Certainly, in the past he has been accused of sabotage in various attempts of talks. Well, this week, another round of talks under the chairmanship of American congressman, Mr. Dymally, was supposed to take place in Abidjan. But at the 11th hour it was called off. Robin White asked Charles Taylor if that was his fault:

[Begin recording] [Taylor] I had agreed to meet Amos Sawyer in la Cote d'Ivoire [Ivory Coast]. I rearranged my schedule three times and I know Congressman Dymally did the same thing. We were prepared, we still stand prepared. Amos Sawyer at the last minute called the meeting off and the congressman was very disappointed. I am and I will look forward to whatever they want to discuss, because he seems to represent the aristocracy in Monrovia that caused the problems in this country in the first place. And so we are waiting for them.

[White] But you are all willing to have a meeting?

[Taylor] I have always been willing, I have... [changes thought] My bags are still packed. We are waiting for whatever they want to say. We are here waiting.

[White] It has been suggested that you are now willing to reach some kind of compromise deal with Mr. Sawyer, is that right?

[Taylor] I don't know what is called a compromise. Look, we control more than 90 percent of this country. We are not going to give it up to nobody. Forget about Charles Taylor—The National Patriotic Reconstruction Assembly Government is not going to turn over and play dead to nobody.

[White] It has been suggested that you might be prepared to merge your assembly with the assembly in Monrovia.

[Taylor] I don't know of an assembly being in Monrovia. I do not see... [changes thought] Look, you know, Robin, I want to get (?the facts) straightened out here. Look, this country has suffered for the past 143 years because there has always been a split between Monrovia and the

hinterland. Here we are again—The Monrovia aristocracy is saying to the rest of the people of this country: We want to rule you if you want to or not. I don't know of any assembly in Monrovia. What I know is that there is a small population down there because they think they know it all. They are trying to tell the rest of the people of this country [that] they do not matter.

[White] Mr. Taylor, you are hardly what would be called a country boy yourself.

[Taylor] Oh, that is what you think. I am a Gola [ethnic group from Sierra Leone and Liberia] man; my mother is right here with me, she is a pure (Zo). People may think otherwise—that is what they are trying to say. But it is not a matter of country boy or not. The point here is Monrovia has always placed the stick on the rest of the people.

[White] I gather that you are planning to go to or try to go to the OAU meeting in Abuja, Nigeria—Is that right?

[Taylor] We plan to be there. We want to be informing the secretary general of the OAU and the president now that we seem to represent a Liberia based on international law. All the low tricks by Babangida, by President Sawyer—Babangida is never going to put a government in this country. If he wants to kill the rest of the Liberian people, he can go ahead and do it. But we are going to do what we want as Liberians in this country and so help me God.

[White] Presume the Nigerians won't let you in...

[Taylor, interrupting] Well, the world will begin to ask why. We expect them to stop us, maybe at the airport, detain our delegation, but that is just going to prove that they have never been neutral in the first place. You know that Babaginda has recognized the Sawyer government, but he still has 8,000 troops here. So I don't see the neutrality here. How can he invite Sawyer to the meeting while he is not even chairman of the OAU yet?

[White] Will you be trying to go there personally?

[Taylor] I think I'll get killed. You know the Nigerian information minister said right on BBC that I should be exterminated. And no one said anything about that. Babaginda never said a word about his official spokesman. They never cared to comment, and I would not risk my life going to Nigeria because I would only get killed. But we are going to send representatives there to represent the people of this nation.

[White] Can I ask about the situation in Sierra Leone? You keep denying that you are involved in the rebellion there, but countless eyewitnesses who have been in the region and spoken to us say that they have seen your men there.

[Taylor] You mean Mark Huband?

[White] Well, He is one. We have also talked to local Sierra Leoneans who have come to us and say that they have definitely seen your men there. They are Liberians.

[Taylor] [Laughs] Yes, they have seen Liberians in Sierra Leone. I don't know of any Liberian who has marked on his forehead NPFL. Look, I have said over and over again, if I may say this, it is not very good English, but we are not involved in Sierra Leone. We have no interest in Sierra Leone and all Momoh is trying to do is to use the NPFL as a means of getting international assistance, because with all crying wolf, wolf. Charles Taylor, he does not get anything. So he cries Charles Taylor [words indistinct], Charles Taylor...

[White, interrupting] It is not just him crying Charles Taylor, Charles Taylor. Now it is people who are in the region who have seen people who say that they come from your organization.

[Taylor] What people? What people? All the...

[White, interrupting] Doctors at hospitals. Doctors in hospitals say that they have seen your people.

[Taylor] Is there anyone that has marked somewhere on him NPFL? This is [words indistinct] set and it is not going to work.

[White] Mr. Taylor, what about these people who have a sort of tattoo marked on them with a scorpion on and the letters NPFL?

[Taylor] [Laughs] There is not one soldier of the NPFL that has a tattoo, scorpion, or anything. So I guess that is where they have made their mistake. The scorpion is a sign that is used by all commandos in Liberia, including the INPFL [Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia]. If you look on Prince Johnson, you will see a scorpion pinned on him. So if somebody is trying to tattoo scorpions around as a means of [word indistinct], I guess that is where they made their mistake. [end recording]

Taylor on Meeting with Sawyer, OAU Summit

*AB2605134891 Gbarnga Radio ELBC in English
1900 GMT 24 May 91*

[Text] The leader of the NPRA [National Patriotic Reconstruction Assembly], President Charles Gankay Taylor, has been commenting on the postponement of this week's scheduled meeting with Dr. Amos Sawyer in the Ivorian capital, Abidjan. President Taylor said he has already agreed to meet with Dr. Sawyer to discuss when [words indistinct]. He said United States Congressman Mervyn Dymally, under whose auspices the meeting was to be held, also had to [words indistinct] his schedule.

President Taylor said the meeting was called off at the last minute by Amos Sawyer, to his disappointment and that of Congressman Dymally. President Taylor, however, said: We look forward to whatever is planned for

[passage indistinct]. President Taylor said his country has suffered for the past 143 years because, he said, there has always been a split between Monrovia and the hinterland. He said the Monrovia aristocracy is saying to the rest of the country that they are [words indistinct] whether they like it or not. Mr. Taylor said there is a small population in Monrovia who think they know it all and are trying to tell the rest of the people in the country that they do not matter.

President Taylor also disclosed that today the NPRA government is communicating with the secretary general of the OAU on the sending of its representative to the scheduled OAU meeting in Abuja, Nigeria. He said his representative will be representing Liberia, based on international law. He stressed [words indistinct] will never put a government in place in Liberia. On whether the Nigerians will allow his delegation in, President Taylor said: We expect them to start [words indistinct] that Nigeria had never been neutral in the Liberian conflict. President Taylor wondered: How could Babangida invite Sawyer to the OAU meeting when he is not chairman of the organization as yet. He said Babangida has always recognized the Sawyer government while still maintaining some 8,000 troops in Monrovia.

The NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] leader again denied his involvement in the Sierra Leone (?crisis). He said the Sierra Leonean president, Dr. Momoh [words indistinct] the NPFL as a means of getting international assistance.

Taylor Warns Sawyer on International Loans

*AB2705092891 Gbarnga Radio ELBC in English
1900 GMT 25 May 91*

[Text] President Taylor has said he has confirmed information that the Amos Sawyer government is now soliciting loans and assistance in the name of Liberia from international lending institutions and banks. President Taylor warned the Sawyer government against any such practice, saying it is the Liberian people who in the long run will have to pay back these loans.

Mr. Taylor said businesses dealing with the Sawyer government are doing so at their own risk. He said they should realize that the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] controls majority of the country and as such, all businesses must be done with its concern. The NPFL leader said the revolution was not initiated by the NPFL to give room to people to play on the true independence of Liberia.

Mr. Taylor said, in his words: The NPFL will continue to protect and defend the sovereignty of Liberia, and added: We will never be forced into exile by anyone. President Taylor also disclosed that Liberian maritime funds allocated in an international source company, the RPC Bank, have been withdrawn by the Sawyer government. He indicated that the management of the RPC Bank will have to account for this money to the Liberian people in the long run.

INPFL, AFL Forces Agree To End Hostilities

*AB2705095591 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English
0900 GMT 27 May 91*

[Text] The Armed Forces of Liberia, AFL, and the Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia, INPFL, have agreed to end all hostilities between them and join in the search for lasting peace in Liberia. The LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY [LINA] reports that both the commanding general of the AFL, General Moses Wright, and the INPFL leader, Brigadier General Prince Johnson, declared that members of both organizations were free to visit each other's bases at Caldwell and at the Barclay Training Center, the BTC.

In separate remarks made at the honoring program for former combatants of the INPFL recently, Gen. Wright and Brig. Gen. Johnson also disclosed that the war is over and added that what is now needed in the country was for the two organizations to work together for peace.

The INPFL leader assured that his organization would never attack the AFL, while Gen. Wright said the AFL would never molest anyone in the community. Meanwhile, Gen. Johnson has disclosed that a program to honor former combatants of the AFL and the INPFL will get under way shortly, the LINA report says.

Minister Comments on Abuja, Sierra Leone Fighting

*AB2705123691 Gbarnga Radio ELBC in English
1900 GMT 26 May 91*

[Summary From Poor Reception] The minister of state for presidential affairs has given a press conference at the national Executive Mansion. He said that "the so-called Monrovia-based government of Amos Sawyer is not a legitimate government of the people" because it was "not recognized by the Liberian people."

He said that the "National Patriotic Reconstruction Assembly government is the government now known by the people" because it has all the necessary apparatus that makes up a legitimate government. On the issue on the OAU conference taking place in Abuja, Nigeria, he said that the "National Patriotic Front of Liberia [NPFL] government will be sending a delegation to represent the interests of the Liberian people." He said Amos Sawyer has been invited by "his political supporter, Ibrahim Babangida," but his government only represents a small portion in Monrovia.

On the issue of Sierra Leone, the minister for presidential affairs said that "the government of the National Patriotic Reconstruction Assembly is in no way committed or involved in the internal affairs of that country," but he said that there are reports that "some remnants of the late Doe's army were fighting alongside the Sierra Leonean Army" to repel the "rebel incursion" in their country. He said that if "this is true, the international community must immediately condemn such acts by the Doe army" because there are Liberian refugees living in Sierra Leone.

Refugees in Sierra Leone of 'Primary Concern'

*AB2705094391 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English
0900 GMT 26 May 91*

[Text] The Interim Government of National Unity says its primary concern now is the repatriation of Liberian refugees in Sierra Leone. According to the acting minister of planning and economic affairs, Mrs Emilia Ward, government will commence the repatriation of Liberian refugees in other countries following the repatriation of those in neighboring Sierra Leone.

Mrs. Ward regretted that the special repatriation committee recently set up by government is experiencing difficulties in obtaining needed funds to facilitate the repatriation and resettlement exercise undertaken by government. The acting planning minister is appealing to Liberians, donor governments, and agencies to assist the interim government to repatriate over 700,000 Liberian refugees now in neighboring African and other countries.

Citizens Dissociate From Monrovia 'Politicians'

*AB2705093291 Gbarnga Radio ELBC in English
1900 GMT 25 May 91*

[Text] Nimba citizens residing in NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] -controlled territory have dissociated themselves from Monrovia politicians who are bent on disrupting the peace process in the country. The citizens said the denial of Liberians in NPFL-held territory to participate in the just-ended all Liberia national conference was worst in recent history, coupled with the new election of Dr. Amos Sawyer as interim president.

In a meeting held in Kahnple, the citizens described the Monrovia-based politicians as social bandits whose intent is to delay the peace process being initiated by President Taylor. They said the continued delay being employed by those politicians has no [word indistinct] on the country's political future because, according to them, without the free participation of the NPFL, nothing can be achieved. They however pledged their loyalty and support to the NPFL and [words indistinct].

Unification Party Elects New Officers

*AB2705152491 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English
0900 GMT 25 May 91*

[Text] The Liberian Unification Party, LUP, has a new chairman. He is Mr. Patrick Williams. Also elected is the Reverend (Augustus Changbe) as vice chairman.

A release from the party said the elections follow the resignation of Mr. (Daniel Powell) as chairman and Mr. (Jeremy Sanky) as vice chairman.

Official on Reducing Ministries To Pay Loans

*AB2305213791 Paris AFP in English 2117 GMT
22 May 91*

[Text] Monrovia, May 22 (AFP)—The Liberian government must reduce the number of ministries and agencies to enable the interim government to repay 720 million dollars owed to international organisations, a senior official has said.

The INQUIRER newspaper on Wednesday quoted the interim coordinator of Liberia's finance ministry, Byron Tarr, as saying Liberia owes the International Monetary Fund (IMF) 600 million dollars and the World Bank 120 million dollars.

In spite of Liberia's huge arrears the two institutions were willing to set up a temporary fund to help the interim government overcome its financial obligations. But in return Liberia must be willing to carry out some economic measures, such as reduction of the number of government ministries and agencies. He said this would also ensure prompt salary payment and accountability. There are currently more than 30 public corporations and autonomous agencies and 16 ministries. Mr. Tarr said civil servants who may be affected by the economic measures would be given loans to engage in private business. He also said that an IMF delegation was expected to visit Liberia in June to become acquainted with developments in the country.

Liberia's outstanding debt to international institutions, including the IMF and the World Bank, and western creditors is estimated to be 1.7 billion dollars, according to finance ministry officials.

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